MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 FEBRUARY 1981

Iran Domestic Affairs

Protest Rally--A rally held by the banned Mojahedin-e Khalq on 30 January strongly criticized the Raja'i government. According to AFP, an estimated 30,000 people heard one speaker say that the official in charge of negotiations for the release of the American hostages, Behzad Nabavi, "handed the people's money to the Americans," while another speaker accused the judicial system of resorting to "torture in the prisons" and a third accused the "reactionaries in power" of bringing Iran "to the brink of the abyss."

Bani-Sadr Speech, Interview--In a speech to refugees and local residents at Jiroft, briefly reported by Tehran radio, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr underscored Iran's need for "nationwide efforts" to manufacture spare parts for the war. Regarding recent U.S. statements about military equipment, Bani-Sadr said Iran knew from the outset of the war that "we would not be given equipment" that had already been ordered from the United States. The president also told refugees that he would remain in Khuzestan until they return home and said he is certain that the nation will continue to "hold up" in the coming period as it has done in the last 4 months following the Iraqi invasion. In a subsequent interview with his newspaper, ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, reported by AFP, President Bani-Sadr said that certain groups have not respected the constitution and have been trying to take power by force. He criticized the Majlis for expending all its energies for "the aim of eliminating the president."

Baluchestan--The Tudeh Party newspaper MARDOM, reviewed by AFP, reported that a Baluchestan liberation front has been formed in the southeast border province. The communist newspaper said the front is led by "feudal elements" that supported the shah's regime and have contacts with former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar and Oman's Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id. The leaders reportedly include members of the late shah's parliament and tribal chieftains.

Iran Foreign Affairs

Relations With Jordan, Morocco--Iran has decided to sever its relations with Jordan and Morocco, Tehran radio reported. The decision was made during a Council of Ministers session chaired by Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i that reviewed the stance of some "reactionary" Arab leaders at the At-Ta'if Islamic Conference summit who conspired to create "division and discord" between Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims. Following the session, Minister of Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi told the radio that the break in relations with the two countries was based on their support for Iraq and opposition to the Islamic revolution. Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani also scored particpants at the Islamic summit for trying to sow discord among Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims in Iran, the radio reported, a theme that was echoed by Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri in his sermons. According to the radio's Arabic service, the Qom Friday imam accused the Islamic summit of hatching "plots" in Iran's Sunni regions in order to create "unrest and instability."

New Air Routes--Roads and Transport Minister Musa Kalantari has revealed that in accordance with an Iranian-Syrian agreement a new air route and shipping company will link the two countries. In a statement reported by Tehran radio, Kalantari said that new air routes will link Tehran with Damascus, Tripoli and Algiers.

Iraq

The French Foreign Ministry has confirmed that Mirage F-1 planes have been delivered to Iraq, Paris radio reported, noting that the French Government is fulfilling its obligations to honor contracts made with Iraq in 1977. In a related report, the radio said that apart from the 60 Mirage F-1 planes, France must deliver 150 AMX tanks and

60 helicopters to the Iraqis. The radio noted that Iraq has not used French armored vehicles against Iran, preferring to rely on heavy Soviet equipment, but is interested in acquiring French Mirage 2000's and warships.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Good Offices Committee--The Amman newspaper AD-DUSTUR reported that the good offices committee formed by the Islamic summit will meet in Riyadh this week to draw up an "action plan" to mediate in the Iran-Iraq conflict. In an interview with the newspaper ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, reported by AFP, Iranian President Bani-Sadr said that the Islamic Conference peace initiative is not feasible since Iran cannot accept enemies on its soil while waiting for "other people" to declare a cease-fire.

Fallahi Interview--Brig Gen Valiollah Fallahi, acting chief of staff of the Iranian Armed Forces told the newspaper ETTELA'AT that Iranian tanks have been employed sparingly in the war with Iraq because of their vulnerability to Iraqi antitank weapons, a shortage of replacements caused by the economic blockade and terrain and weather considerations in Khuzestan. To counter this shortcoming, Fallahi stressed, Iran has concentrated on making guerrilla strikes into Iraq, harassing Iraqi troops behind the lines and destroying military targets. The Iranian Army has shifted troops from Kordestan to meet the Iraqi threat in the south, the general went on, but is still outnumbered three to one by Iraqi forces. Fallahi expressed confidence in the final outcome of the war but warned against "direct and indirect harassment" by the United States.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported Iranian Air Force planes in action over Ahvaz and Al-Faw and also noted numerous Iraqi MiG sorties over Kermanshah, Khark Island and Marivan. Iranian and Iraqi artillery continued their exchanges all along the front, the radio went on, while Iranian troops raided Iraqi positions around Susangerd. The Iraqi General Command, in communiques carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses and INA, reported heavy Iranian losses around Ahvaz, Abadan and Panjwin.

Israel

Peres Speech--Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres told a party convention in Tel Aviv that if he becomes prime minister his government will honor all the Likud government's "international commitments" but will not fulfill "everything" the Likud has decided on and "certainly not everything it is about to decide on" prior to the election. The Labor leader went on to specify a number of internal policy matters that "will be reassessed," ITIM reported, but did not include the government's West Bank settlement policy among them. Nevertheless, Peres did criticize the hurried establishment of settlements in Judaea and Samaria by Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon and indicated that Israel's priority should be to have a Jewish majority. Under the Likud government Israel has become increasingly isolated, he asserted. He also criticized the Begin government for being overhasty in giving up the Sinai and presenting the government and the Knesset with a fait accompli. Peres also outlined a seven-point list of large-scale "national projects," including the digging of a channel linking the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea, which will receive "utmost precedence" under a Labor government. Jerusalem radio reported that Justice Minister Moshe Nisim reacted to Peres' remarks by calling the Labor leader an "arrogant politician" and noting that it is "customary" for governments to honor commitments made by their predecessors.

Shamir Interview--In an interview with Jerusalem radio, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir described the Islamic summit call for a "jihad" against Israel as a "most extreme and irrational step." Shamir also said that recent statements by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig on the need to combat international terrorism are "very encouraging" since the PLO is "one of the most terrorist organizations in the world." The foreign minister again criticized the possible sale of West German tanks to Saudi Arabia, asserting that such a move would be a "terrible blow" to Israeli-German relations.

Egypt

Cairo newspapers cited by MENA reported that Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali is to summon Israel's ambassador to Egypt to protest his government's settlement policy in the West Bank and Gaza, particularly the building of new settlements. MENA also reported that Hasan 'Ali described 29 January statements on "Arab Jerusalem" by U.S. Secretary of State Haig as representing a "positive stance" on the issue.

The foreign minister criticized the recent Islamic summit, MENA reported, for not adopting a "clear and frank stand" similar to Egypt's on the Afghan issue. Lack of "proper preparation," he claimed, prevented the conference from attaining significant results.

PLO

In statements to British MP's reported by the Voice of Palestine radio, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat criticized recent U.S. statements describing the PLO as a "terrorist" organization, claiming that such statements provide an "American cover" for Israeli raids in Lebanon. 'Arafat said the European states have issued "no more" than a "political statement" and have not presented an "initiative" on the Middle East problem. The PLO leader criticized European leaders for backing down on their Middle East statement at the more recent Ankara meeting "under pressure" from former U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie. Regarding the forthcoming Israeli elections, 'Arafat said there is no difference between Peres and Begin save that the former is trying to "deceive Europe with false flexibility."

Pakistan

In an interview with the Saudi newspaper 'UKAZ, President Ziaul Haq said that "no secret agreements" have been concluded between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia but added that cooperation between the two countries is taking place "on a large scale and openly." Referring to the "threat to peace" posed by the growing presence of major powers in the Indian Ocean, President Ziaul Haq said that the littoral countries should develop a "regional security system" among themselves to ensure that no "nonlittoral state" obtains a superior position in the area. Regarding Afghanistan, the Pakistani leader said that the "most effective aid" that Islamic states can give is to seek a "political solution" on the basis of a Soviet withdrawal and Afghanistan's right to self-government and independence. He expressed the hope that the new U.S. administration will "contribute positively" to solving the Afghan problem.

Afghanistan

Commenting on the new conscription law in an interview reported by Kabul radio, Defense Minister Brig Gen Mohammad Rafi' said the callup age has been reduced from 22 to 20 and the normal tour of duty is 2 years, although it will be less for those with a degree or higher education. He added that conscripts who serve longer than their prescribed term of service will have the excess period deducted from their term in the reserve. The general described Western reports of unrest in the army as "lying propaganda."

PDRY

According to Muscat radio, PDRY Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad ordered a "maximum state of alert" on 15 January to block a coup attempt by Defense Minister 'Ali Antar. The alleged coup attempt followed earlier reports of a power struggle between the two ministers and the recent dismissal of Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Salim al-Bid.

Turkey

A bilateral defense and economic cooperation agreement with the United States was ratified by the Council of Ministers, ANATOLIA reported, noting that, according to the agreement and its appendices, the U.S. Government will assist Turkey in modernizing its military equipment and developing local production and maintenance facilities. In return, Turkey will allow the United States to make use of a dozen of its military installations, providing flight facilities for U.S. airplanes.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT SPEECH TO UK MP'S CRITICIZES U.S.

NC011420 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Speaking to a British parliamentary delegation, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] sharply criticized the new U.S. administration under Ronald Reagan. Answering a question by one of the parliamentarians, he said that the new U.S. administration's policy of hostility toward the Palestinian people will not affect the struggle of our people and their revolution, but, on the contrary, that this hostile policy will disclose the falsehood of the new U.S. administration's allegations about its reconsideration of the foreign policy of the Carter administration.

Abu 'Ammar added: The statements by the U.S. State Department spokesman and earlier by Haig and Reagan against the PLO, describing it as terrorist organization, conceal U.S. aggressive intentions and constitute an American cover for the savage bombing by the Israeli enemy's planes of our peaceful people in the south and the camps.

Answering another question on the European states' attitude, Abu 'Ammar said: Europe has done no more than issuing a political statement. It has not presented an initiative. It is noted that the nine states backed down on this statement at the Ankara meeting under pressure from former U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie. Abu'Ammar added: Europe has a role and a responsibility toward international security and peace, but this role cannot be carried out as long as Europe is unable to free its will from the U.S. decision on various international issues, including the Palestinian question.

Answering a question on the Israeli elections, Abu 'Ammar said: Shim'on Peres does not differ in any way from Menahem Begin. Both raise the slogan of exterminating the Palestinian people. The only difference is that Peres is trying to deceive Europe with false flexibility when in fact both Shim'on Peres and Menahem Begin are daily criticizing any European role in the Middle East conflict.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS 30 JAN MILITARY COUNCIL MEETING

NC311436 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1150 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Following his return from At-Ta'if last night, brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chaired a meeting of the Palestinian revolution higher military council.

During the meeting the council discussed the enemy's brutal air and ground attacks against cities, villages and refugee camps ir southern Lebanon during the past 2 days.

After a study of the grave situation, the military council adopted several urgent measures to confront it.

LE MONDE INTERVIEWS CHEDLI KLIBI ON ARAB DISPUTES

LD271433 Paris LE MONDE in French 25-26 Jan 81 p 4

[Paul Balta dispatch: "Chedli Klibi Tries To Assert Code of Conduct in Quarrels Between 'Fraternal Countries'"]

[Text] Tunis--Inter-Arab meetings, notably between Hassan II and President Chadli Bendjedid, who will be meeting for the first time, are to be held in conjunction with the Islamic summit which opens in At-Ta'if on Sunday 25 January, in an attempt to settle some of the disputes which are tearing the Arab world apart.

Before leaving for At-Ta'if Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi reviewed for us the action taken by his organization to try to overcome these divisions which, he recalled, "culminated" in the sixties when An-Nasir wanted to place the Arab world under Egypt's domination.

Mr Klibi indicated that following the Amman summit a "fraternal good offices commission" was set up comprising Saudi Arabia, Algeria and the League General Secretariat. It established a platform aimed at preventing the quarrels from hindering the pursuit of joint action in all spheres. Thus when a unanimous decision is taken all the countries should implement it unless they can have it revised. Under another rule, when there is a dispute two states can recall their ambassadors and reduce their diplomatic representation but they will not be entitled to remove it completely or suspend their economic and cultural cooperation. Syria, Iraq and Jordan have agreed to study this platform. If they accept it it can then be adopted by the other league members and become a general rule, adoption being suspended in Egypt's case until it decides to "rejoin the Arab family" by admitting that it deviated in signing the Camp David agreements.

Mr Klibi envisages "personal and friendly" meetings in At-Ta'if organized by King Khalid of Saudi Arabia between King Husayn and President al-Asad and Saddam Husayn or between Hassan II and President Chadli Bendjedid to "try to effect a reconciliation between them."

As regards the Saharan conflict the Arab League secretary general hopes that "Algeria and Morocco might make efforts to safeguard peace and stability in the region," and called for "sacrifices and concessions from both sides to prevent the forces of destabilization from spreading further."

[Question] The impression one has is that everybody is aware of that need but nobody knows how to stop the war?

[Answer] The problem is how to save face. That is why a dialogue between the two heads of state might break the deadlock by putting things in their right perspective....

Morocco must accept the referendum but according to the record of the population as it was when Spain left. There are documents in the United Nations. It is possible to say who is Saharan and who is not. We have full details of the people included in the census and it is they who must be consulted.

[Question] Wishing to annex Chad and dreaming of building a Saharan empire which would threaten to break up several states. [sentence as published] What is your view of this?

[Answer] Libya is an Arab and African country bordering on Chad to which it gave aid at the request of the legal government. According to the statements which we have noted from the two sides there is no question of a merger or union still less of an imposed union. My impression is that the Tripoli declaration has been distorted since it has an ideological and even philosophical rather than an institutional content. In any case the Chadian people will have to be consulted.... As for the idea of a "Saharan empire," I think it is a subject for sensationalist newspapers.

No "Interference" In The Gulf War

Mr Klibi said he thinks that Europe will be able to contribute to a just solution in the Near East especially since Euro-Arab dialogue has been revived after a period of stagnation and since it will no longer be limited to technical questions but will be extended to political and security questions.

As regards Lebanon, he noted that some states would like the Arab Deterrent Force, whose mandate was due to be renewed on Thursday, 22 January, to return to the form originally intended and include elements from several countries.

As regards the situation in the Gulf and the Iran-Iraq conflict, Mr Klibi warned the great powers against any "interference." "I am thinking," he said, "of all eventualities including the supply of U.S. arms to Iran."

In conclusion Mr Klibi expressed regret at the fact that the emphasis is being placed on inter-Arab quarrels and that the in-depth work carried out by the Arab community is not being considered. He recalled that the Amman summit adopted documents, also approved by the countries which boycotted that meeting, establishing "the Arab development decade" starting in 1981. The plan makes provision for coordination between national development plans and the drafting of an inter-Arab plan.

ZIAUL HAQ VIEWS ISLAMIC SUMMIT, MIDEAST SECURITY

LD301523 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 28 Jan 81 (supplement p 3)

[Interview granted by Pakistani President Ziaul Haq to 'UKAZ chief editor in At-Ta'if--date not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr President, how do you see the state of the Islamic nation today?

[Answer] The Islamic nation today is more active than it ever was in past centuries. Its interest in playing a constructive role in supporting the prosperity, peace and security of the whole world is manifest in the Islamic Conference Organization's resolutions. Therefore, I believe that the Islamic nation is on its way to playing its legitimate role in the world community in the coming days.

[Question] Do you agree, Mr President, with the view that Pakistan will be the next target following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and that Soviet intervention will extend to Pakistan and other countries?

[Answer] We have opposed Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as a matter of principle because we feel that every country, great or small, has the right to decide its own affairs free of any foreign interference or influence.

If these principles are not observed then no state can remain independent. Even Pakistan will be vulnerable to foreign intervention. Nevertheless we are confident that the world community will continue to respect the principles of international law and the UN Charter, which constitute the basis of international behavior by countries great and small.

[Question] What practical measures has Your Excellency taken to confront or to avoid such a possibility?

[Answer] As I have already said, we opposed Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as a matter of principle and defended this stand at the Islamic ministers' conference, at the United Nations and in other international bodies. We have clearly expressed the desire to conduct a political dialogue on the basis of the principles declared at the Islamic summit the UN resolutions in order to solve the problem. It is natural that Pakistan should take measures to strengthen its security by all means possible.

[Question] During His Royal Highness Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's recent visit to Pakistan there were reports about the signing of a secret agreement between Pakistan and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom to confront the possibility of such intervention in Pakistan by the Soviet Union or anybody else. What is the real situation in this regard?

[Answer] No secret agreements have been concluded between Pakistan and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom. Cooperation between the two countries is taking place on a large scale and openly. Of course, during His Royal Highness Amir Fahd's visit we had a frank exchange of views regarding the recent situation in the area, with particular interest in the situation in Afghanistan which is of a special concern for both Pakistan and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

[Question] Do you expect problems of any particular type as a result of the situation in Iran, and what kind of problems do you expect?

[Answer] The internal situation in Iran is the concern of the Iranian people alone. We do not expect any problems to arise, and we hope that the Iranian people and their Islamic revolution will continue to flourish.

[Question] Some political observers see Brezhnev's recent visit to India as tantamount to a new alliance to further threaten Pakistan. What is Your Excellency's view in this regard?

[Answer] Certain statements and public utterances by the Indian leaders, including Mrs Indira Gandhi, have aroused concern. Nevertheless, the Indian leadership assured us that it was not aiming at Pakistan, and we received a similar assurance from the Soviet Union.

[Question] Incidentally, Mr President, how extensive is the coordination between Pakistan and China to confront this new alliance?

[Answer] We have strong ties of cooperation with China; our friendship with it is deep and has been in existence for a long time. Yet this cooperation is not directed against any third party.

[Question] Mr President, the Indian Ocean is facing certain threats. What is the nature of these threats, and how can the security of the Indian Ocean and the countries overlooking it be guaranteed?

[Answer] The increasing presence of the major powers in the Indian Ocean and the competition between these powers is posing a major threat to peace in the whole area. The reasons given for this increasing presence by the major powers are attached to certain recent events in the area, including the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The security of the Indian Ocean and its countries can be ensured by removing the means of force, which in consequence calls for the removal of the major powers' presence in the area. Therefore, the Indian Ocean countries should develop among themselves a regional security system that would ensure that no nonlittoral state will obtain a superior position in the area.

[Ouestion] Some people wrongly say that the situation in Pakistan is calm only on the surface. Would you kindly give your views on this matter?

[Answer] All governments face certain problems, although they may vary. Pakistan is no exception to this rule. I am sure that we have the will and the necessary resources to overcome these problems. Solving these problems will no doubt take some time and effort. Pakistan is not suffering from a serious political problem and we will take further measures in due course.

[Question] What is the real volume of U.S. aid to Pakistan, and how can Pakistan keep its foreign policy unaffected by such economic and financial aid?

[Answer] Pakistan is no longer receiving any economic aid from the United States, whose recent allocations for foreign aid include limited supplies for Pakistan to provide it with certain types of food. Pakistan is following an independent and nonaligned foreign policy and does not accept aid to which strings are attached.

[Question] The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has underlined the hestitant U.S. attitude in providing Pakistan with aid to confront threats. Does your country still consider the United States a friendly country on which it can rely in times of difficulty?

[Answer] The crisis resulting from the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan caused worldwide concern, and the United States adopted a stand toward it according to its views as a superpower. I am sure that the Reagan administration is bound to discuss the matter and to adopt a stand immediately afterward. There is no point in commenting on Carter administration policies since they have become part of history. For its part Pakistan attaches importance to friendly relations with all countries, including the United States. We hope that President Reagan's administration will contribute positively to solving the Afghan problem.

[Question] The Soviets and the ruling regime in Afghanistan exploit the problem of Afghan refugees in order to accuse Pakistan of interfering in Afghanistan's affairs. They are also trying to use this as an excuse to justify military intervention in Pakistan. But Pakistan denies that it provides military aid to the Afghan people. Since this is a fact, how can the Afghan people fight the Soviets and win if all the Islamic powers do not support them militarily, economically and politically?

[Answer] The Afghan people are fighting with their traditional bravery and heroism against foreign intervention and military occupation. Pakistan has pursued a policy of nonintervention in Afghanistan. Its aid has been restricted to humanitarian aid to the 1.5 million refugees who sought refuge in our country. We believe that the most effective aid that the Islamic states can give to the Afghan struggle is a political solution on the basis of Soviet withdrawal and the Afghan people's exercise of the right to form a government of their own without coercion or external pressure, so that Afghanistan restores its independent and nonaligned status and conditions are created for the return of refugees to their homes.

SENEGALESE PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED IN AT-TA'IF

LD301203 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 28 Jan 81 p 5

[Hamad al-'Askar and 'Abdallah Jastaniyah interview with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf in At-Ta'if--date not specified]

[Excerpts] In an interview with AR-RIYAD and the newspaper AL-MADINAH, the first question that was put to Senegalese President Abdou Diouf was about the role the third Islamic summit will play in tackling the problems of Islamic African countries. President Diouf said: First I believe that the principles on which the Islamic summit is based are no doubt the spirit of solidarity and the teachings of the Koran. Therefore, the principles on which we have based this conference and the nature of the work it is carrying out seek to enhance solidarity and establish peace among all peoples. The role of the summit is not confined to development problems but also deals with issues of security and stability in the African Continent. At this precise moment as we are talking about the African Continent it is the target of attempts to spread instability.

Unfortunately such attempts are being made by some countries that are members of the Islamic Conference Organization, in particular, "a country which we all know." The Islamic countries should seek to take an effective stand here and in every place against that country so that it will understand its duties and it will stop its interference in the affairs of other countries. We believe that it is necessary that we should strive to restore peace to this part of the continent. We believe that the Islamic summit can achieve rapprochement between some of the Muslim African states which are involved in disputes. The Islamic summit was an opportunity for the sisterly states Morocco and Algeria to come directly together, to resolve their disputes, and to enhance fraternal ties between the leaders and peoples of both countries.

[Question] Mr President, what is Senegal's attitude toward the problem of Chad?

The president answered: I am neither with the French nor with the Libyans but I am with the sovereignty of Chad and the security of Africa. We have clearly said that sovereignty over the Chadian territories can be realized through the withdrawal of the Libyan forces and the entry of African forces consisting of [forces of] UN member states which should form a force to preserve peace. This force should be deployed in all the Chadian territories. This is the way that can ensure cooperation with the African states with a view to conducting free elections and realizing Chad's independence. Any elections held without such arrangements cannot be considered as valid.

[Question] Can we know what happened today during your meeting with the Chadian president?

President Diouf answered: I have explained to Chad's president what would be in his interests and in the interests of his country. This is unimportant. What is important is that the Chadian people should agree to cooperate with us and to confirm the Lagos conference resolutions that provide for the establishment of a government in Chad under the supervision of the OAU. Therefore, we told Mr (?At-Turayki) that if you want to resume normal relations with Senegal you must begin by expelling the mercenary troops and the Senegalese mercenaries in your country. This way our relations can gradually be improved.

[Question] What is your program with regard to the new regime and are there any changes in the regime following the resignation of former President Leopold Senghor?

He replied: There are no changes. We are following the principles that the previous president has established.

SAUDI ARABIA

KING KHALID REPLIES TO PRESIDENT REAGAN'S MESSAGE

LD311428 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1045 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 31 Jan (SPA)--His Majesty King Khalid ibd 'Abd al-'Aziz has sent a message to the American President, Ronald Reagan, in reply to a message sent by the American President to his majesty on the occasion of his appointment as President of the United States of America. Here follows the text of the message:

His Excellency President Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, Washington.

Your Excellency:

I have received your message of 26 January 1981. I express my thanks to Your Excellency regarding your interest, and would like to inform you that I have conveyed to the attention of my brethren, their majesties, their excellencies and royal highnesses, heads and leaders of the Islamic world taking part in the conference, the contents of your excellency's message.

Peace which can be achieved and can continue in the Middle East is the just peace based upon withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, foremost holy Jerusalem, recognition of the Palestinian people's firm legitimate rights to their land and homeland, including their right to return to their homes and their right to self-determination and all their rights stemming from the resolutions of the UN General Assembly, which recognize, among other things, the Palestine Liberation Organization in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The third Islamic Conference summit considers that the United States of America is capable of playing an important role in repelling Zionist aggression against the Arab and Islamic nation. It is capable of preventing the causes of this aggression and hence preparing the suitable atmosphere for reaching a just and comprehensive peace which ensures security for the region and guarantees the rights of its authors.

[Signed] Yours sincerely, Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS AL-FAYSAL

LD312208 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1645 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Riyadh, 31 Jan (SPA)--Christoph A. van der Klaauw, Netherlands foreign minister, who is currently visiting the kingdom, praised Saudi-Dutch relations and described them as very good. He confirmed the importance of the role played by Saudi Arabia at international gatherings and said that his country would continue to consult Saudi Arabia in view of the important position enjoyed by this region.

In a statement to SPA this evening, the Netherlands foreign minister expressed gratitude and appreciation for the assistance provided by the kingdom to his country and pointed out that economic cooperation between the two countries went back many years. Furthermore there were many Dutch people working in Saudi Arabia. The minister added that his talks with His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, dealt with many political issues concerning the Middle East, the Camp David accords between Egypt and the Zionist enemy, the European initiative on peace in the Middle East; the danger of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Soviet interference in the Horn of Africa and the consolidation of bilateral cooperation in the economic and agricultural fields.

On President d'Estaing's statement on Afghanistan, Mr Klaauw said that that statement did not express the view of Europe. He confirmed that Afghanistan should be a neutral country and condemned the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. He called for the chance of self-determination to be given to the Afghan people. Mr Klaauw pointed to the problem of world inflation and called for the resumption of dialogue between the North and South to find satisfactory solutions to problems facing the world.

1 Feb Departure

LD011500 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Feb (SPA)--The Netherlands foreign minister, Christoph van der Klaauw, left Riyadh today at the end of his 1-day visit to the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

He was seen off at the airport by Saudi Ambassador to the Netherlands Shaykh Ziyad ash-Shawwaf; head of the western desk at the Foreign Ministry, Shaykh Ma'mun Qabbani; head of the Foreign Ministry's branch in Riyadh, Shaykh 'Ali as-Suqayr, and the Netherlands ambassador to the kingdom.

Press Statement

LD011514 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0758 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Press statement issued by the Saudi Foreign Ministry on the visit of Netherlands Foreign Minister Dr Christoph van der Klaauw to the kingdom]

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Feb (SPA)--The Saudi foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, has expressed satisfaction at the constructive talks he has had with Dr Christoph van der Klaauw, the foreign minister of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, on the occasion of his excellency's official visit to the Saudi Arabian Kingdom from 30 January 1981 to 1 February 1981, at the invitation of his royal highness.

At the start of the visit the Netherlands foreign minister was received in audience by his majesty the king.

During the visit discussions were held in an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect on the relations between the two countries and a review was made of the international issues of common interest to both sides, particularly the situation in the Middle East and the Afghan question.

With a view to the Middle East question, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud informed the Netherlands minister that no political settlement to this question can be found unless it is based on tackling the Palestine issue from all aspects, foremost of which is the exercise by the Palestinian people of their established national rights including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, and its participation in any negotiations dealing with the future of the issue.

With regard to the situation in Afghanistan, the two sides agreed on the need for the unconditional withdrawal of the Soviet forces and the granting of an opportunity for the Afghan people to choose the regime they want without any pressure or foreign interference. They also agreed on the need for the resumption by Afghanistan of its role as a sovereign, independent and nonaligned Muslim country. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that any initiative which fails to take these facts into consideration will not contribute to the cause of peace and security in the area.

With regard to the bilateral relations between the two countries, the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the growth and development of these relations for the good of the two countries and the two peoples.

Dr van der Klaauw invited His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to visit the Netherlands. The invitation was gratefully accepted and its date will be fixed later.

UAE

MINISTER ANNOUNCES OIL, LIQUID GAS PRICE HIKE

JN011850 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1815 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 1 Feb (GNA)--The UAE has decided to raise the price of its crude oil by $3 per barrel and the price of its liquid gas by 8 percent as of 1 January.

This was stated today by Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources. In a statement cited by ENA, he said that this increase comes within the framework of the resolutions taken by OPEC at its last conference, held on 15 December on the Indonesian island of Bali.

U.S. RECONSIDERATION OF MIDEAST POLICY SCORED

GF310520 Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic 28 Jan 81 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The Reagan administration chose the time of the Islamic summit in At-Ta'if to announce, through a State Department spokesman, that it is reconsidering its policy toward the Middle East and the PLO.

As for the extent of the expected U.S. changes, the spokesman didn't clarify their dimensions. Observers speculated that the "new" U.S. policy toward the PLO might be to treat it as a terrorist organization that includes some moderates instead of a terrorist organization that includes only terrorists.

During the week since Reagan assumed real power in the United States, we didn't hear statements from U.S. officials other than those reiterating U.S. adherence to Camp David, trying to get Jordan to join its faltering train, and suspending recognition of the PLO pending its recognition of Israel and abandonment of terrorism. After all that, the United States would review its attitude toward the PLO.

Therefore, we have to ask ourselves: What is the significance of the U.S. announcement which even Israel described as a "surprise"? This "surprise" vanished when the U.S. spokesman later openly called on the Islamic summit to abandon its program on the holy jihad and advised its members to avoid anything that increases tension and harms peace in the region.

Consequently, the new U.S. "surprise" is now more than a move to appease Arab and Islamic feelings and provide scope for deceptive hope and trust in a different U.S. stand that has already been proved to be nonexistent.

It seems that history repeats itself--at least regarding the U.S. policy toward the Middle East. Exactly 4 years ago, when Carter's Democratic administration took over, the U.S. President began his diplomatic statements with recognition of the Palestinian's right to a national homeland and to determine their future. A short time after this pledge that created an uproar in the Arab and non-Arab world, Carter explained his real conceptions of Arab and Palestinian rights by signing the Camp David accords.

PDRY

KUWAITI AMIR ARRIVES IN ADEN 1 FEB FOR TALKS

LD011050 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0849 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Aden, 1 Feb (KUNA)--The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah arrived here today on the first visit to the PDRY by any Kuwaiti ruler. He was welcomed on arrival by President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad who is expected to have talks lasting 2 days with the Kuwaiti amir on relations between the two countries, on Arab affairs--including the security of the Gulf--the Iranian-Iraqi war and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Kuwaiti amir was accorded a tumultuous official and public welcome. Present to welcome him also were members of the PDRY Government, the diplomatic corps and the huge crowds which filled the Aden airport.

YAR

PRESIDENT SALIH RETURNS FROM ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

JN291408 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, returned to San'a' from At-Ta'if at 0315 this morning after leading the YAR delegation to the meetings of the third Islamic Conference summit.

SALIH, KUWAITI AMIR BEGIN TALKS IN SAN'A'

JN311853 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The official talks between YAR and fraternal Kuwait began at the general command at 1800 today. The YAR side was headed by brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces; whereas the Kuwaiti side was led by His Highness Prince Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait.

31 Jan Banquet

LD312136 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Official talks began at 1800 today at the headquarters of the general command of the armed forces in San'a' between a Kuwaiti delegation led by his highness the amir, and the Yemeni side, led by Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the YAR president and general commander of the armed forces.

The information official accompanying his highness said that the talks dealt with the fraternal relations between the two sister countries, which strive to serve the interests of the Arab nation and to clear the atmosphere between the brothers. The official said that President Salih presented the YAR medal, the highest medal in the state, to his excellency the amir. The official said that the amir of the land ordered the establishment of [illegible]ollege at San'a' University as a present from the Kuwaiti people to the fraternal people of Yemen.

Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih gave a big banquet tonight in honor of his highness the amir, and the delegation accompanying him. It was attended by senior YAR officials, members of the diplomatic corps in the YAR and important civilian and military figures. The amir this afternoon toured San'a' and its suburbs.

Joint Communique

LD011422 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Joint communique issued at the conclusion of Kuwaiti chief of state Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah's visit to the YAR]

[Text] Out of the spirit of Arab fraternity linking the Yemeni and the Kuwaiti peoples and in response to an invitation from his brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the YAR and general commander of the armed forces, His Excellency Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, paid an official visit to the YAR from 31 January 1981 to 1 February 1981. A big official and popular reception was accorded the important guest, which expressed the depth of the fraternal ties between the two peoples and sister countries. Heading the welcomers was brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, YAR president and general commander of the armed forces.

Talks were held in a fraternal spirit between the two sides. The YAR sides led by brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the Kuwaiti side by His Excellency Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. A number of officials from the two countries participated. During the meetings held by both sides, bilateral relations and means of their development were discussed. The Yemeni side appreciated the support for development projects in the YAR from the government of sister Kuwait, and its help in the educational and other fields. The Yemeni side reviewed the achievements of the YAR in all fields and informed the Kuwaiti side of the steps taken toward the unification of Yemen through meetings between the unification of Yemen through meetings between the leaderships of the two countries and between the unity committees, praising the efforts of the Arab brothers, foremost Kuwait.

Both sides studied the most important Arab and international problems and their viewpoints were identical in all matters discussed in this field, especially developments of the Palestinian problem and the dangers facing the Arab nation as a result of the continued Zionist occupation of Arab land and the aggressive plans implemented by the Israeli enemy. In this context both sides expressed adherence to the implementation of the resolutions of the Arab summits endorsed in Amman, Tunis and Baghdad. They confirmed in particular the need to implement the strategy of United Arab action approved by the 11th summit. They stressed the importance of the consolidation of Arab solidarity and rejection of any side disputes among the sister Arab countries in order to devote their time to dealing with the common Arab problems. Both sides praised the positive results of the third Islamic Conference summit held in Mecca and, in particular, the resolutions concerning the liberation of Jerusalem and the other usurped Arab and other Islamic territories and the consolidation of comprehensive Islamic solidarity. They expressed the hope that these resolutions would be translated into serious practical steps along the road of realizing the desired objectives.

While reviewing the current situation in the Gulf, both sides expressed regret at the continued Iraqi-Iranian war, for its exhaustion and waste of the energies of two Islamic peoples and countries. They confirmed that the responsibility for maintaining security and stability in this region was the duty of the governments of littoral countries and their peoples away from any external pressure of interference.

Both sides praised the results of this visit at the level of bilateral relations and their consolidation and development in the interest of the two fraternal peoples. Shaykh Jabir expressed gratitude for the warm reception and welcome accorded to him and the accompanying delegation. He invited his brother YAR president to visit Kuwait. The invitation was accepted with thanks. The date is to be fixed later.

'ALI WELCOMES HAIG'S STATEMENTS ON JERUSALEM

NC310740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said that the statements on Arab Jerusalem that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig uttered at his press conference the day before yesterday represent a positive stand by the new U.S. administration confirming previous and traditional U.S. stands on this delicate and important issue. AL-AHRAM reports today that Kamal Hasan 'Ali has reaffirmed that Egypt has condemned the decision to Annex Arab Jerusalem and that although it does not demand repartitioning, it emphasizes the special status of Arab Jerusalem.

EGYPT TO STRONGLY PROTEST ISPAELI SETTLEMENTS

NC310703 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0622 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jan (MENA)--The Cairo papers have reported that Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will summon the Israeli ambassador in Cairo to hand him a strongly worded Egyptian protest against the persistence of the Israeli Government in its settlement policy in the West Bank and Gaza and in its builidng of new settlements. In their editions today, the papers quote Kamal Hasan 'Ali as saying that the addition of any new settlement will put a new obstacle before peace.

'ALI CRITICIZES RESULTS OF AT-TA'IF SUMMIT

NC311601 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the At-Ta'if Islamic Conference summit has disappointed the aspirations of millions of Muslims in both its preparation and its resolutions.

In a statement to MENA 'Ali said that Egypt had hoped that better preparation would have been made for the latest Islamic summit. The lack of proper preparation prevented the conference from attaining significant results concerning the urgent and vitally important issues of the Islamic world, foremost of which is the Afghan issue. Egypt had hoped that the countries participating in the conference would adopt a clear and frank stand similar to that of Egypt's. Egypt prides itself on being the first state to announce to the world that it stands behind the Muslim Afghan people and supports them with arms and other kinds of aid.

'Ali said that the Islamic Conference summit also did not touch on the attitude of Al-Qadhdhafi's Libyan regime toward Islam nor on its flagrant aggression against Chad, an aggression which exposes African solidarity with the Islamic countries to fragmentation regarding its fateful issues.

'Ali questioned the Conference's intercession in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and its incomprehensible measure of sending a delegation to Iran on a mission that was doomed to failure as a result of lack of wise preparation for the conference.

'Ali said that the conference's handling of the Palestine and Jerusalem issues was regrettably disappointing to millions of Muslims who had expected a course of action more positive than mere statements and the evident contradictions in the resolutions.

GHALI MEETS NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER 1 FEB

NC011416 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today held discussions with the Netherlands foreign minister, who said that the discussions centered mainly on the nature of his mission in the area and on the implementation of the Venice declaration on the Middle East.

He also stressed the EEC states' interest in the Middle East situation, saying that they wanted to discuss questions in more detail. The Netherlands foreign minister said that he will return to Cairo, adding that he has already paid an official visit to Saudi Arabia and will pay a similar visit to Algeria to discuss current issues.

On his attitude toward Libyan interference in Chad, the Netherlands foreign minister said that he was concerned about Libya's activities on the African Continent and that Al-Qadhdhafi's moves meant the creation of instability in Africa, where many problems exist. He said that Africa needed stability to implement the economic development projects. He praised the African reaction to Al-Qadhdhafi's moves.

Dr Butrus Ghali said that the discussions with the Netherlands foreign minister indicated Egypt's interest in the European initiative on the Middle East and that the Netherlands minister explained the contacts he held and the steps he will be taking in the next few weeks to give a new momentum to the situation in the Middle East.

Dr Ghali added that the Netherlands foreign minister will, in his capacity as the EEC chairman, meet with President Anwar as-Sadat in Luxembourg.

GHALI COMMENTS ON ATTENDING NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

NC310843 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that Egypt will attend the nonaligned foreign ministers conference to oppose the Marxist states that are trying to dominate the movement. This follows the emergence of a new group of communist states that has disturbed the balance in the nonaligned movement.

In a statement to Egyptian television, which is published by AL-AHRAM today, Dr Ghali says that the task of the Egyptian diplomacy at the nonaligned conference, which is to be held in New Delhi from 9 to 12 February, is to safeguard the movement from the Marxist deviations threatening it.

The minister of state for foreign affairs said that Egypt restrained the Arab rejectionist states when Egypt's permanent delegation in New York submitted a note explaining that it was the only state working for the Palestinian cause and for a durable and just peace in the Middle East. This, he adds, was a reply to a memorandum that Iraq, Syria, South Yemen, Jordan and the PLO had submitted to the nonaligned coordination office in New York calling for the suspension of Egypt's membership in the nonaligned group--a memorandum the office rejected.

DELEGATION GOES TO NEW DELHI PREPARATORY MEETINGS

NC311936 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1911 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)--Some members of the Egyptian delegation to the nonaligned foreign ministers conference, led by Ambassador 'Amr Musa, the director of the Foreign Ministry's International Conferences Department, left Cairo this evening for New Delhi. The Egyptian delegation will attend the conference's preparatory meetings, which will begin in the Indian capital on Wednesday.

ROMANIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTER ARRIVES 1 FEB

NC011922 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1850 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA)--Romanian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture Angelo Miculescu arrived in Cairo tonight at the head of a delegation on a 3-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Ministries of Agriculture and Reconstruction.

AS-SADAT SPEECH AT BANQUET FOR NEPALESE KING

NC0120531 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1938 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has affirmed that Egypt is striving to establish peace and that it wants peace for all people of the region, including the Palestinians, who have the right to self-determination like other people. The president added: This is a pledge we have undertaken and from which we will not deviate, regardless of the obstacles standing in our way.

This was contained in the speech President as-Sadat delivered at the dinner banquet His Excellency and Mrs as-Sadat held at 'Abidin Palace tonight in honor of Nepalese King Birendra and his wife on the occasion of their visit to Egypt. In his speech, President as-Sadat also said: We confidently look forward to the support by you and all peace-loving and justice-loving people in the world to give momentum to peace in our area so that it may be consolidated on the land of peace.

The following is the text of President as-Sadat's banquet speech:

Dear friend, Your Majesty King Birendra, Her Majesty the Queen, ladies and gentlemen:

On my own behalf and on behalf of my wife, it pleases me to express our happiness at the opportunity given to us by my dear friend His Majesty King Birendra and Her Majesty the Queen to welcome them to our country by accepting our invitation to visit the Arab Republic of Egypt. I wish them a happy stay in our country, which is happy to always receive them as dear friends from a friendly country for which our people harbor all the feelings of love, esteem and respect.

Your visit has come to confirm the strong ties of friendship and cooperation between both our countries, ties we hope will constantly grow and prosper in the interest of both our friendly peoples. We are also looking forward to further cooperation between both peoples in their efforts to build a better life and contribute toward establishing firm foundations for a world dominated by security, safety and stability and based on the principles of right, justice and peace.

We, honorable guest, believe in peace as a principle of civilization and a vital need for the progress and advancement of mankind. We were in the forefront of the forces that exerted the most sincere efforts to reduce tension and fight the tendencies for domination and hegemony. We declared that peaceful coexistence among all nations and peoples was a duty dictated by the realities of the age and by the lessons of ancient and modern history alike.

From this premise, we are drawing the picture of the future in our area, which, as you know, is the cradle of civilization and the land of peace. While looking to the future with faith and hope, we affirm the need to establish a just and permanent peace in the Middle East--a basic condition for achieving the requirements of reconstruction and building in this vital region of the world. We are also eager to make it clear that we will not abandon the sacred duty of pursuing the peace process begun by Egypt's historic initiative represented by my visit to Jerusalem in 1977.

Let us repeat with wise Buddha that "Love, not hatred, expels hatred." These are magnificent words that agree with the venerable words in the prophetic tradition of our messenger Muhammad, prayers and peace be with him: "The best action is to work for the world's peace;" I say that we are seeking the establishment of peace, but the peace we want is for all people in the region, including the Palestinians, who have the right to self-determination like other people. This is a pledge we have undertaken and from which we will not deviate, regardless of the obstacles standing in our way.

Peace is a noble goal that deserves the hardships we suffer for its sake. We confidently look forward to the support by you and all peace-loving and justice-loving people in the world to give momentum to peace in our area so that it may be consolidated on the land of peace.

Dear friend, we hope that your visit to Egypt will provide a good chance to exchange news on issues of the age that are of interest to both our countries and peoples. It may, perhaps, be a chance for us to acquaint Your Majesty with the achievements that the Egyptian people have accomplished through their continuous efforts to face the enormous challenges facing them to reshape life on their land for the sake of a better tomorrow and a brighter future.

Friends, permit me to invite you to stand with me in greeting our two august guests, his majesty the king and her majesty the queen. Greetings to the friendly Nepalese people, for whom we wish more progress and prestige.

Thank you.

NEW RADIO RELAY STATION TO BE ESTABLISHED

NC012216 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2140 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA)--Mansur Hasan, minister of state for presidential affairs and for culture and information, has allocated 500,000 pounds as a first payment toward setting up radio relay station in As-Sallum on Egypt's northwestern coast.

In its Monday edition, AL-AHRAM says that this station aims at consolidating and diversifying the dissemination of media in Marsa Matruh Governorate and at preparing special programs dealing with the new life in the desert and the activities taking place there such as development, the green revolution, reconstruction, electricity and the new communities projects.

RAMADAN MEETS CSSR, AUSTRIAN, AFGHAN ENVOYS

JN011833 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, met separately here today with the Austrian, Czechoslovak and Afghan ambassadors in Baghdad.

During his meeting with Austrian Ambassador Heinrich Birnleitner and Czechoslovak Ambassador Dr Jan Straka, Ramadan reviewed Iraq's trade and economic relations with the two countries and the means to reactivate the two countries' companies operating in Iraq to implement a number of development projects. He also reviewed the means to expand trade exchange.

The two ambassadors told the first deputy prime minister that their countries are eager to exert redoubled efforts to reactivate economic, technical and trade relations with Iraq and to participate in implementing development plan projects, as stipulated in the 1981 investment program.

Ramadan also met with (Abdol Hadi Makmal), the new Afghan ambassador to Iraq, on the occasion of assuming his post. Ramadan and the new Afghan ambassador discussed means to create better relations between Iraq and Afghanistan for their mutual benefit.

ROMANIAN AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL ARRIVES 29 JAN

JN301208 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 30 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Jan (INA)--Enache Sirbu, deputy minister in the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, and his delegation arrived here last night on a visit of several days to Iraq for talks with officials in the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform on promoting cooperative relations in agriculture between the two friendly countries.

INA CITES REPORT ON KHOMEYNI ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

JN311704 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Ankara, 31 Jan (INA)--Press reports published here recently said that charlatan Khomeyni was subjected to an assassination attempt a few days ago in the heart of the Iranian capital city.

In a dispatch from Tehran, the Turkish paper GUNAYDIN said that an armed group opened fire on Khomeyni and clashed with his guards. Citing diplomatic sources, the paper added that Khomeyni was wounded, forcing his aides to cancel all his meetings in Qom. The paper added that bloody clashes have erupted recently in the city of Mashhad between the supporters of Bani-Sadr and Beheshti, who is backed by Khomeyni. Meanwhile, tension continues in the city of Tabriz in light of the struggle for power among the various factions there.

'AZIZ: WAR MEDIATION WELCOME; U.S. TIES POSSIBLE

LD021000 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0730 GMT 2 Feb 81

[Text] Riyadh, 2 Feb (SPA)--Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz has affirmed that his country welcomes the third Islamic Conference summit's decision in Mecca on extending membership of the good offices committee which is mediating between Iraq and Iran in order to achieve a cease-fire and to find a solution to problems between the two countries. In a statement to the Saudi paper AL-BILAD published here today, Tariq 'Aziz said that his country will offer every opportunity for the success of Islamic and UN efforts in this regard.

Tariq 'Aziz expressed his country's readiness to resume diplomatic relations with the United States if it changes its attitude, in a positive acceptable manner, toward the Arab-Israeli conflict by adopting a just and objective stance on the matter. Relations between Iraq and the United States were severed in 1967.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 232-234

Communique No 232

JN301701 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Jan (INA)--Our armed forces have inflicted heavy losses in lives and equipment on the Persian regime's forces. These losses included 146 troops killed and 1 helicopter, 16 vehicles, 2 armored personnel carriers, 6 guns of various calibers, 1 observation post and 3 excavators destroyed.

Communique No 232 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command today put our losses at eight martyrs and damage to one tank, one personnel carrier and three vehicles. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 232 issued by the Armed Forces General command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our armed forces continue their activities in their operations sectors with confidence and capability. The following are the results of their activities yesterday evening and today.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our advanced forces engaged an enemy troop concentration in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin, killing 15 and destroying 2 vehicles and 1 gun.
B. Seven were killed and one vehicle carrying personnel was destroying in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
C. Our units opened fire on enemy troops near our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb region and forced them to flee, leaving behind 11 dead.
D. Our combat patrols raided enemy positions in the Sumar region, killing 10 before returning safely to base.
E. One was killed opposite our positions in the Sayf Sa'd region.
F. Ten were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Mehran region.
G. Five were killed in the Dezful region.
H. Our forces opened fire on enemy troop concentrations and positions in the Shush region, inflicting the following losses: 22 were killed and 1 vehicle and 2 guns were destroyed.
I. Yesterday, a white car guarded by two enemy armored personnel carriers was sighted in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region. Our forces opened fire, killing five and destroying the two armored personnel carriers.
J. Our units opened fire on the enemy concentrations and positions in the Ahvaz region, killing 44 and destroying 5 vehicles--1 of which was carrying personnel--2 guns and 1 excavator.
K. Our units engaged enemy troops and positions in the Abadan region, killing 16 and destroying 7 vehicles, 2 excavators and 1 gun. Our field guns also shot down an enemy helicopter in the same region.

Accordingly, enemy losses amount to 146 dead; 2 armored personnel carriers; 16 vehicles, 2 of which were carrying enemy troops; 6 guns of various calibers; 1 observation post; 3 excavators; and 1 helicopter.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: eight martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One tank, one personnel carrier and three vehicles were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 January 1981

Communique No 233

JN311732 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Communique No 233 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 31 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Our valiant armed forces continued to inflict massive losses in lives and equipment on the ignorant racist Persian enemy. The following are the results of our forces' activities yesterday evening and today.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our units leveled artillery and mortar fire on an enemy concentration in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin, killing 10 and destroying 1 vehicle.
B. Enemy concentrations were sighted in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. Our forces engaged them and forced them to flee, leaving behind 33 dead and 1 vehicle.
C. Ten were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
D. Nine were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Mehran region.
E. Ten were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Dezful region.
F. Two were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Shush region.
G. Our units opened fire on enemy positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, killing four and destroying two armored personnel carriers.
H. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite our units: positions in the Ahvaz region. Our units opened fire on it, killing 42 and destroying 1 armored personnel carrier; 2 vehicles, 1 of which was laden with ammunition; and 1 excavator.
I. Our units engaged enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan region, killing 34 and destroying 1 tank; 7 vehicles, 1 of which carried ammunition; 2 guns; 1 rocket launcher; 2 excavators; and 1 infantry position.

Thus, a total of known enemy losses amounts to 154 dead; 1 infantry position; 1 tank; 3 armored personnel carriers; 11 vehicles, 2 of which carried ammunition; 2 guns; 1 rocket launcher; 3 observation posts; and 3 excavators.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 16 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle and one mortar were damamged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 January 1981

Communique No 234

JN011704 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1628 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Feb (INA)--During the past 24 hours, Iraqi forces have killed 99 Iranians, shot down 2 helicopters and destroyed 4 vehicles, 1 armored personnel carrier, 2 guns, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts and an infantry position.

Communique No 234 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command today said that the military operations were carried out in the area opposite Panjwin in the norther sector, in Gilan-e Gharb, Sumar, the area facing the Iraqi forces' positions in Sayf Sa'd, Mehran Dezful, Shush, Khafajiyah [Susangerd], Ahvaz and Abadan. The following is the text of Communique No 234:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: The following are the results of our armed forces' activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy loses:

A. Five were killed and one vehicle and one gun were destroyed in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin.

B. Four were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
C. One armored personnel carrier and one vehicle were destroyed by our helicopters in the Sumar area.
D. One gun was destroyed in the area facing our units' positions on the Sayf Sa'd area.
E. Two were killed in the Mehran area.
F. Five were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Dezful area.
G. Two were killed in the Shush area.
H. An enemy troop concentration was sighted near our units' positions in the Khafajiyah area. Our units attacked the concentration, forcing it to flee after sustaining 26 dead. Our field defenses shot down two helicopters in the same area.
I. Our units attacked enemy personnel in the Ahvaz area, killing 38.
J. Our units attacked enemy positions in the Abadan area, inflicting the following losses on him: 17 dead and two vehicles, one excavator and one observation post destroyed.

This makes the total known enemy losses: 99 dead and 1 infantry position, 1 armored personnel carrier, 4 vehicles, 2 guns, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts and 2 helicopters destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One gun damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 February 1981

BAGHDAD CONDEMNS IRANIAN LEADERS, MULLAHS

GF921128 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Impostor Khomeyni and the reactionary mullahs are in a difficult position. Through contemptuous intrigures they wish to have the people believe that religion is a means of oppression. These individuals wish to mediate between revolutionary religion and the people. Through hypocrisy they try to convince the people to withdraw to places of worship on certain days and submit themselves to the preaching of the mullahs.

It is common knowledge that oppression has no place in religion. Nevertheless, pain-grieved Khomeyni and his band of harmful and illiterate followers feel the need to oppress the people. Obviously, however, these plunderous and [word indistinct] minds fear serious repercussions from the awakening people. Looking back at the unprecedented treachery and disaster in the country brought about by Khomeyni and his harmful followers, the people have already started to voice their complaints and objections to this reactionary regime. Feeling their existence in jeopardy, the harmful and imbalanced mullahs have resorted to roguery in order to deceive the people.

If they are not afraid of the Iranian people and if they enjoy the support of the masses, why do they feel the need to safeguard their corrupt existence with arms? Why have they employed terrorists to safeguard their undeserved existence? Why do they censor the personal mail of people who were subjected to injustice? Why do they keep the (?Hilton) under surveillance? Why do they threaten and disturb guests at airports and guest houses with a view to misleading them with oppressive words?

People of Iran: These international charlatans constitute a means of pain and suffering in your daily life. The U.S. plots and the plunderous band of mullahs who are in power in Iran with the support of certain visible and invisible forces have had no mercy at all, even for your pregnant women. They have shed the blood of your young children.

Destitute but heroic Iranians, do not heed the fabrications of these criminals. Do not be deceived by these scoundrels. Since their usurpation of power they have brought you nothing but disaster. Using Islam and the Koran as a veil, they resorted to terror in order to divert the true revolution of the Iranian peoples from its course. Thus they have defamed Iran and its people.

Iranian people, it is time for struggle and revolution. The Khomeyni regime is on the verge of collapse and extinction. Do not turn a blind eye to this fact. If these mad parasites are permitted to continue to use force and reorganize themselves, they will continue to mercilessly shed blood and take lives.

It is common knowledge that Bani-Sadr is cooperating with the mullahs. Together with Khomeyni, he is responsible for all the disaster, misfortune and crimes Iran has suffered. Bani-Sadr is in service of world imperialism and, since the war has been provoked by this entity, Bani-Sadr regards it as normal to cooperate with the reactionary mullahs and fulfill their wishes.

Dear Iranian brothers, you know Bani-Sadr better than we. His work and cooperation with the mullahs are no secret to you. Bani-Sadr is one of Khomeyni's closest associates. He is a member of the [word indistinct] Revolutionary Council that has ordered the pillage of the property owned by innocent people. Through the [word indistinct] Majlis Bani-Sadr has punished freedom-loving people by sentencing them to death. Together with his impostor mullahs, Bani-Sadr has destroyed Iran's history, culture and civilization and shattered the country's economy. He has been one of the main factors destroying the fire of Iran and weakening the Iranians' morale. Together with his mullahs, Bani-Sadr has been the cause of death of many young men and soldiers and he has protected the Khomeyni regime against its rivals. Now Bani-Sadr has resorted to a satanic move to win the support of the armed forces and, shamelessly, is declaring himself the friend and brother of the Iranian people.

Iranian people, you must not forget that, together with Bani-Sadr, individuals such as Khomeyni, Beheshti, Raja'i, Rafsanjani, Qotbzadeh, Yazdi, Chamran and Khamene'i are stateless people in the service of world imperialism. Their duty is to serve imperialism by enraging the people of Iran against the Islamic Republic. However, we have confidence in the people of Iran and we therefore declare that they will not permit Bani-Sadr or any other harmful individual to alter the destiny and future of Iran and turn this country into hell where people would burn for the sake of the mullahs.

The Iranian peoples have taken the course of revolution and liberty. They will no longer be deceived by the world imperialism and avaricious caliphs, nor will they be misled by the intrigues of the hopeless regime of the illiterate and criminal mullahs. The Iranian people are aware that the only way to their salvation is the removal of the dark and criminal regime of Khomeyni.

FRANCE DELIVERS MIRAGES TO IRAQ VIA CYPRUS

For Paris and Nicosia accounts of the delivery of Mirage aircraft to Iraq by way of Cyprus, see the France and Cyprus sections of the 2 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

KING HUSAYN GRANTS INTERVIEW TO SAUDI TV

JN301852 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1616 GMT 30 Jan 81

["Text" of interview granted by King Husayn to Saudi television--place and date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Your Majesty, how will the world view the third Islamic Conference summit resolutions and how could we obtain influential and positive support on the world arena, particularly since the Zionist and communist circles have started to infuse poison against the summit's objectives and purposes?

[Answer] This is actually expected from enemies of this Arab Islamic nation as well as from those who covet this important part of the world. Those who have objectives want to attain them by obliterating the features of the Islamic and Arab character, by wiping out the gains that were scored over the generations by means of sacrifice, loyalty and work in defense of the right and by wiping out all the future generations' hopes. But with God's help, the resolutions will remedy and solve all issues.

We are committed to all decisions and to working for the sake of building and sincerely presenting the issue before the entire world. I believe that we will attain our objectives and, with God's help, we will convey the real picture about us. I also believe that we mean what we say, that we are committed to what we agreed upon and that we will, with God's help, implement our plan in all fields and domains.

[Question] Has a high-level committee stemmed from the conference to follow up all changes and events that might emerge on the international level as a result of these resolutions?

[Answer] Actually, there is no specific committee at present, but there were ideas and proposals for specific preparations in various fields. A leader of the Islamic group will chair this in every field. I believe that this will be crystallized into reality in the near future. Also, there will be successive and continued contacts and meetings to follow up the implementation of the resolutions and to face every new thing.

[Question] Your Majesty, what is your opinion about the newcomer to the U.S. White House, who strongly demonstrated his way of thinking during his election program on the way he will direct his work in the U.S. administration? Do you expect that a tangible development will emerge on the Middle East issue as a result of this new way of thinking by the U.S. administration?

[Answer] Actually, it is premature to judge the U.S. situation and policy which, I believe, has not yet been crystallized. However, the electoral process not only for the presidency but also in other fields, in the Senate for example, and the popular U.S. participation in the change in the U.S. arena give the impression that the U.S. people are aspiring for a national and strong leadership.

I can say that there is also a trend in the United States to have Americans assume responsible posts with their allegiance confined to the United States and its principles. If these initial features are true, I believe that there is hope for the future. I also feel that if the new U.S. administration is concerned about serving the U.S. national interest and placing it above all considerations, only then will we find that there are open doors and that there are many fields for holding a constructive Arab-U.S. dialogue.

The advice we conveyed to the new U.S. administration via the various press media and other methods is that it should not be adaptive to the previous policies, stands and mistakes and that it should grab the chance to reconsider everything. If it wishes, then there can be an Arab-U.S. and Islamic-U.S. dialogue based on new principles.

[Question] Does Your Majesty believe that the proposed European initiative will be a satisfactory alternative to the Arabs in terms of a solution to the Palestinian issue that is acceptable to the Arabs? And what is the reason for the ever-hesitant European stand?

[Arswer] I believe that a major change has been introduced into the equation and situation in this world. I also believe that there has been a positive development. There are many reasons, which may have affected us, that made us incapable in the past of presenting our just issue before the world in an effective manner. This is because we believed that the issue was clear, and we did not realize the big role played by our enemy in obliterating these facts. Since they realized that the fate of this part of the world and that of Europe is one if we view the dangers menacing world peace and the hopes of mankind, they started to move. I believe that this is a positive development that should be encouraged by us. They started to investigate facts and they are now about to adopt a stand on the right path because they are concentrating on the bases on which peace should be established. This is contrary to the previous abortive attempts and the practices from which we suffered tremendously in the Arab world.

I believe that a European stand will affect the United States, and not only on the official level. It will also enable the U.S. people to bypass the barrier erected by Zionism to keep facts from reaching them in particular. I believe that all these developments are positive, and we hope that the results will be good.

[Question] Your Majesty, since the information media is talking about a meeting between Your Majesty and the U.S. President so that he can listen to your views, do you intend to visit Washington and meet U.S. President Reagan? Have you agreed on a new formula at the third Islamic conference and do you expect positive results from this visit?

[Answer] In fact no date has been agreed upon for a meeting between me and President Reagan. He expressed his desire to meet with me. The date for this visit has not yet been fixed. Of course, if I go, I will convey the Arab and Islamic stand, which is a unified stand, and will submit it in its dimensions to President Reagan and the U.S. Government. I will also particularly concentrate on the issue of the Palestinian right to the Palestinian national soil.

It is time we begin to work on this issue and put things in their right perspective so that a just, honorable and lasting peace can be achieved. However, this cannot be achieved except through the return of Islamic Arab Jerusalem and all the occupied territories and with the pioneering participation of the PLO, which expresses the Palestinian people's aspirations and feelings and defends their rights on their national soil with the help of the Arab nation and the Islamic nation for the sake of the restoration of their rights. These are the broad lines of any discussion related to this issue. This will, of course, be the situation when the visit takes place.

[Question] Your Majesty, some leaders occasionally emerge in the Arab and Islamic world with the sole aim of fragmenting efforts, squandering potentials and eliminating the Islamic spirit. Why are no unified Islamic measures taken to confront these discordant phenomena, such as withdrawing recognition from that state and isolating it on the political, economic and military levels?

[Answer] There is no doubt, sir, that the nation is a single nation. Regrettably, the stands and phenomena you are talking about are more related to the leaders than being a question of what is on the minds and consciences of the Arabs and Islamic nation.

In my opinion, I always believed in the need for revelation, frankness and the adoption of a stand in the face of the dangers threatening the unified destiny. This does not pertain to entities. We have a connection with a past that abounds with sacrifices and struggle for the sake of obtaining freedom, safeguarding the creed of tolerance and defending rights. We have a duty toward the forthcoming generations. This duty transcends persons. It is the duty of defending our character, rights and freedom. I think that when some defect happens, it must be dealt with frankly and clearly. This has always been my opinion.

Perhaps through these meetings, the most important of which is this one, we might have begun our march along the path that leads to the removal of these contradictions and to work for the welfare of the Islamic and Arab nation and the confrontation of anyone who tries to offend this welfare or to wear a mask in order to harm the people's interests and distort the picture. This applies to anyone, whoever he may be and regardless of the mask put on.

[Question] Your Majesty, every now and then we hear about meetings aimed at distributing the centers of power in the world, with our peoples becoming the victim. How can we foil these schemes in their cradle?

[Answer] With cooperation, awareness, joint action and construction. This has been manifested in this meeting in these holy lands. The outcome was an expression of the will of the Islamic and Arab nation. We greatly hope that all will be aware of this.

We can foil all attempts and confront all challenges through commitment, sincerity and work. Besides, it must be clear that our present and our future generations are actually threatened. We have to stand up and tell this world that we are more capable and more entitled to do so than others. This is our duty.

We befriend those who befriend us and antagonize those who antagonize us. We in the Arab world, for instance, were for some time against foreign alliances and connections. However, the phenomenon returned in other forms. The conference dealt, among other things, with the tragedy of Afghanistan. The entrance to Afghanistan was a treaty between Afghanistan and a superpower. After this particular incident, we find that this trend and this path are still being followed. When the question is posed by some, it is said that there are attempts to create strategic balance, for instance: namely, the East would be here and the West on the side of Israel. Before this occurs, perhaps the entire world will burst. In my opinion, even if we achieve results along this trend, we will not be in a situation in which we can even exercise our right to build our strength so as to restore or defend a right. We will have lost our character and sacrificed all the accomplishments of the previous generations. We will have ended as Arabs and Muslims. We must view these matters with great caution and deal with them by standing as one hand and one heart in the face of all attempts from any side whatsoever to make our territory and peoples fall victim to the struggle of the strong ones in this world. This struggle will be conducive to our loss and the loss of the coming generations.

[Interviewer] Your Majesty, on behalf of the television of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, we thank Your Majesty for granting us this time. We wish every success to your honest and sincere efforts to serve our Arab and Islamic causes. Carry on with God's blessings. May the peace and blessings of God be upon you.

[King Husayn] Thank you.

KING HUSAYN RETURNS FROM AT-TA'IF CONFERENCE

JN291657 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Jan 81

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn has returned home with God's care and protection after heading Jordan's delegation to the third Islamic Conference summit.

SARKIS RETURNS FROM AT-TA'IF ISLAMIC SUMMIT

NC291036 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Jan 81

[Text] A few minutes ago the Lebanese delegation to the At-Ta'if Islamic Conference summit which was led by President Ilyas Sarkis, arrived at Beirut international airport. The delegation was welcomed back at the airport by the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, military commanders and senior officials.

BUTRUS LEAVES FOR DAMASCUS 2 FEB, MAKES STATEMENT

NC020952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0908 GMT 2 Feb 81

[Excerpts] At 1015 today Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus left Beirut by air for Damascus to meet with his Syrian counterpart, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, to reach an agreement with him on an agenda for the Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting and to discuss other topics of interest to both countries.

In a statement at the airport, Foreign Minister Butrus said: My visit falls within the framework of the periodic consultations, held continually or regularly between Lebanon and Syria on all aspects of bilateral relations and the situation in the area. It is also a part of the preparations for the forthcoming summit meeting between Presidents Sarkis and Al-Asad.

Foreign Minister Butrus was asked: The Israeli foreign minister made a statement 2 days ago in which he threatened continued Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon. What is your answer to the Israeli minister, and what role is Lebanese diplomacy playing to counter these recurring aggressions?

Butrus replied: Our answer to this threat was that we lodged a complaint with the Security Council, as you well know. I would like to note here that this is not the first threat of its kind. It has been Israel's custom to make such threats. We also never stopped submitting complaints and memoranda to the Security Council and we have been contacting the big powers that are capable [of doing something] and the Arab states, with the aim of drawing up a comprehensive strategic plan for confronting the Israeli schemes. Until such a plan materializes we call for full discipline in the south so as not to give anyone an excuse for committing such acts.

Foreign Minister Butrus denied that he was carrying a security plan to Damascus. He said: What is termed by some as a security plan is nothing but coordination between the Arab Deterrent Forces and the Lebanese security forces to gradually ease the burden on the Syrian forces. This matter is never out of our minds or the minds of the Syrians, not for one moment.

VISITING CPSU DELEGATION MEETS BA'TH OFFICIALS

Tawfiq Salhah Meeting

JN311812 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--Comrade Tawfiq Salhah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and chief of regional organization office, today received the visiting CPSU delegation under Yuriy Balandin, CPSU Central Committee member.

Comrade Salhah asserted that our masses are rallying around the leadership of our great party and its secretary general, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, in order to repulse all the plots of imperialism and its reactionary agents, plots intended to undermine the steadfastness of our people and country, as well as our national unity, in order to implement the Camp David accords and their subsidiary stands.

Comrade Salhah pointed out the failure of all these feverish and hostile onslaughts, thanks to the party, the various popular organizations and the honorable nationalists. He praised the Syrian-Soviet cooperation agreement, stressing that it will serve the requirements of the joint struggle of our two friendly countries. He also emphasized that the friendly Soviet Union had repeatedly voiced its support for the Arab people's struggle to liberate the usurped land and to regain the Palestinian people's usurped rights.

Head of the guest delegation, Comrade Balandin, highlighted the great socialist accomplishments that have been achieved in the country's provinces under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. He reaffirmed that the CPSU and the Soviet people stand at the side of the struggle of our party and country to liberate the occupied territories and to regain the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Muhammad Haydar Meeting

JN011900 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus, 1 Feb (SANA)--Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the Foreign Relations Bureau, has praised the great role played by the friendly Soviet Union in supporting world liberation movements and the escalating struggle against imperialism and its hostile policy in the world. This was stated by Comrade Haydar today upon receiving the visiting CPSU delegation under Yuriy Balandin, CPSU Central Committee member.

During the meeting, Comrade Haydar stressed the importance of consolidating and promoting and friendly relations between the two parties and peoples in the two friendly countries. He also spoke about Syria's steadfastness in the face of the imperialist and Zionist plots.

Comrade Balandin, in turn, praised the historical speech delivered by President Hafiz al-Asad at the third Islamic Conference summit in At-Ta'if. He also praised the warm welcome accorded to the delegation during its visit of the Syrian provinces.

PRESIDENT HAFIZ AL-ASAD RETURNS FROM AT-TA'IF

JN291133 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 29 Jan 81

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus at 1200 today after having participated in the third summit conference, which concluded its meetings in At-Ta'if yesterday.

ALGERIA

USSR, ALGERIA AGREE ON COOPERATION IN PLANNING

LD010024 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Algerian Ambassador to the USSR al-'Ayyashi Yakir was received by deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee Baybakov. They conferred on the development of Soviet-Algerican cooperation in the medium and long term following the conclusion of the session of the joint governmental commission of the two countries. Agreement has been reached to exchange visits by officials from the planning departments of the two countries and to enhance cooperation between the Soviet and Algerian planning organizations.

NETHERLANDS' VAN DER KLAAUW COMMENTS ON RELATIONS

LD012146 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Algeria and the Netherlands have in recent years opened a new era of cooperation. In Algiers, as well as The Hague, it is thought that these relations can only develop to the benefit of the two countries. In which sectors will they develop? These are the questions which will be discussed by the foreign ministers of the two countries.

Mr Christoph van der Klaauw, foreign minister of the Netherlands, has been in Algiers since this afternoon. He did not conceal his optimism to our special correspondent:

[Begin Van der Klaauw recording in French] I am convinced the talks we are to have in the next few days will contribute toward a better mutual understanding of our conceptions and opinions. And I hope they will also enable us to find, by virtue of our meeting, the means to widen and reinforce the cooperation between our two countries--a cooperation which in recent years has undergone a favorable evolution in numerous fields.

Furthermore, I attach great importance to this exchange of views because it is likely to contribute to the strengthening of the very special role Algeria is playing between the different continents: Not only in [word indistinct] and the Mediterranean but also elsewhere in the world.

I am aware that Algeria, one of the most influential members of the nonaligned countries and the countries of the Third World, one of the principal representatives of the Arab world and Africa, aspires [words indistinct] to lay the foundations of rapprochement between the peoples so as to improve mutual understanding in the world.

It is within this context that I place the role of mediator which Algeria played during the past few weeks and which was followed with so much esteem in the entire world. Be assured the Netherlands will also continue to work for rapprochement in our present-day world where interdependence is increasingly growing, and thus (?foster) peace in the world and the peaceful development of the peoples.

I am persuaded that the talks we are to have here in Algiers will contribute to a great extent to the implementation of this common aim. [end recording]

MAURITANIAN MINES MINISTER ARRIVES, BEGINS TALKS

LD312348 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, Mauritanian minister of mines and energy, arrived today in Algiers on an official visit for 3 days at the invitation of the Ministry of Energy and Petrochemical Industry. The Mauritanian minister and the accompanying delegation were received at Houari Boumediene International Airport by brother Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries.

Algerian-Mauritanian talks began this afternoon with brother Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries, and Sidi Ahmed Taya, Mauritanian minister of mines and energy chairing the meeting.

The talks, which were attended by the ambassadors of the two countries, will enable them to review the prospects of Algerian-Mauritanian cooperation in the sphere of petrochemical industry. In that respect they will discuss the topic of the start of work on the Nouadhibou refinery and Algeria's contribution. They will also discuss vocational training of Mauritanian cadres in Algerian specialized institutions such as Institut de Petrole.

LIBYA

SYRIA'S KHADDAM VISITS, CONVEYS MESSAGE 1 FEB

JN010859 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a short visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyah during which he will deliver a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Khaddam was received at the airport by 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; the official in charge of the Syrian public relations office in Tripoli; and members of the office.

In an arrival statement, Khaddam said that he will convey a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to his brother leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on several issues of common interest. Khaddam affirmed that the special relations between the two countries necessitate an exchange of viewpoints and consultations on all joint issues.

1 Feb Departure

LD012348 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution yesterday evening [1 February] received Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who arrived in Tripoli yesterday morning on a short visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Brother Khaddam conveyed a message to the leader of the revolution from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam left Tripoli yesterday evening after concluding his visit to the Jamahiriyah.

CHADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ATTACKS LIBYA'S CRITICS

LD302058 Tripoli JANA in English 1840 GMT 30 Jan 81

[Text] Rome, 30 Jan (JANA)--Ahmat Acyl, the Chadian foreign minister, made a sharp attack on the European countries which manifest a hostile position towards the great Al-Fatah revolution and which strive to sabotage its increasing world influence.

The Chadian foreign minister told "IL GIORNALI D'ITALIA" that these countries oppose the Al-Fatah revolution for the significant role it plays in various areas and for its ability to confront all sorts of imperialist trends and designs. Europeans know fully, he added, that Al-Qadhdhafi is a revolutionary and that we are and remain his friends regardless of all consequences.

Mr. Acyl condemned the French position as contrary to the interests of the African Continent. He added that France, which had invaded his country in the sixties, is now waging a campaign of noise against Chad. Denouncing European and reactionary reactions against the declaration of merger with Libya, he asked: Why was it that nobody raised a voice against us when we merged with Zaire?

He added that France shares most of the blame for orchestrating this campaign of noise and that "nobody is capable of forcing us out of this merger project as we are free people and should remain so."

The Chadian foreign minister concluded by commenting that though only a short time has passed since the Second World War in which Europeans fought each other and managed to kill 20 million people in the battlefield, moves for European unity are in full process, and nobody can claim that the Chadian people have ever expressed any opposition to such unity moves.

CHADIAN PRESIDENT DEPARTS AFTER VISIT 31 JAN

LD311924 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Oueddei Goukouni, president of Chad, at midday today left Tripoli following a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud saw the president of Chad off at Tripoli's international airport. The secretary of the General People's Congress and some members of general people's committees also saw the president off.

MAURITANIA

FISHERIES AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR 31 JAN

LD010048 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] Soumare Oumar, the minister of fisheries, this morning signed with His Excellency Vladimir Startsev, the Soviet ambassador to our country, an agreement on fishing cooperation between our country and the USSR. The agreement, which constitutes a framework for bilateral relations in the field of fishing, stipulates the establishment of a mixed Soviet-Mauritanian fishing company under the name (Motom).

CAPE VERDE'S DA LUZ ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

AB310700 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 30 Jan 81

[Text] Mr Silvino da Luz, the minister of foreign affairs of Cape Verde islands, arrived in Nouakchott late this morning. The Cape Verdian minister was welcomed by Mr Mohamed El Mokhtar Ould Zamel, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. He explains the purpose of his visit to (Khan Cherif):

[Begin Da Luz recording] The purpose of my visit to Mauritania is to deliver a message from the secretary general of the party and president of the Republic of Cape Verde islands to His Excellency Khouna Ould Haydala. As you well know, the people of Cape Verde have had close relations with the Mauritanian people for a long time--since the national liberation struggle. The Mauritanian people were found to be loyal friends, and brothers [words indistinct] during the national liberation struggle. These relations, that is to say, during the struggle, have been developed since our country's independence through exchanges between our two countries and through the clearly declared political wills of the leaders of the two countries.

It is within this context that President Pereira, the secretary general of our party, sent us here because of the recent [words indistinct] in Cape Verde. We have an important policy [words indistinct] of armed struggle. Today, we think that in view of this very peculiar situation it is necessary to explain to our brothers--and first of all to those who are our friends and former allies--the motives behind the political decisions that we have taken in the past months. It is therefore within this context that we have come on a visit to Mauritania. [end recording]

CABINET TO INSIST ON 7 JULY ELECTION DATE

TA011417 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] The Cabinet will insist that the election to the 10th Knesset take place on 7 July. Only if difficulties emerge in the Knesset law, constitution and justice committee will the coalition representatives agree to set 30 June as the election date.

Our political correspondent reported that at the Cabinet session Menahem Begin raised the issue of the election date for debate and said that under no circumstances should it be agreed to hold the elections before 30 June.

At the Cabinet session, Ministers Burg and Katz wanted to postpone the decision on the compensation for the Yamit district evacuees but their opinion was rejected. They wanted the Treasury to give details on the scope of the compensation. Minister Katz said the compensation agreement currently proposed discriminates against the inhabitants of urban settlements in the Sinai. Eli'ezer Shostak said that it is necessary to decide at once on the compensation, or else the government would be exposed in its weakness. Minister Sharon said that he dealt with preparing the principles for the compensation for nearly 2 years and if the government rejects the document, he would stop handling the matter. Ultimately, the Cabinet endorsed the previous decision and accepted the principles for compensation.

Begin's Mood

TA020948 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Feb 81 p 4

[By Yosef Harif]

[Text] During yesterday's Cabinet discussion Prime Minister Begin remained passive and sunk in thought. His thoughts, judging from his facial expression, were not very optimistic. According to the appraisals of the other Cabinet ministers Mr Begin's mood is mainly the result of political developments outside the government and of relations within the Cabinet. It was once again proved that it will be impossible to restore domestic harmony in the government now, just a few months before the next elections. This is borne out in just about every Cabinet discussion these days.

FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES ANTI-INFLATION MOVES

TA011940 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] This evening Finance Minister Yoram Aridor announced a series of swift measures to curb inflation. These measures combine social and economic aspects.

Speaking at a news conference in Jerusalem, the minister said that these will be actions aimed at encouraging savings, preventing excessive subsidizing, certain price reductions and selective price increases with an eye to the public's sensitivity. As a result, he announced, certain types of oil--but not gasoline--will go up. Frozen meat, except for chicken, will go up by 10 percent. Electricity prices will also go up by 10 percent and water prices by 6 percent.

Minister Aridor explained that this action is unavoidable in light of the deficit that must be covered or at least partially covered. He said the government's contribution to curbing inflation is through price reductions. In 3 months purchase taxes will be lowered on certain goods such as cars whose engine volume is 1,300 cubic centimeters or lower, color television sets, washing machines, refrigerators and gas stoves.

The finance minister said he hoped the public would accept this combined policy with understanding, noting that he would submit an annual budget rather than an interim budget. He added that the would not permit steps that could hamper the improvement of the economy nor would he raise the value added tax rate. He said he would consider lowering taxes in the future as well.

These measures were approved by all members of the economic minicabinet. The Treasury's director general, Prof 'Ezra Sadan, said that in his opinion the rate of inflation could be lowered in the next fiscal year to a two-digit figure.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT AFFAIRS

TA311307 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] This week, as the new Reagan administration began to get into its stride in Washington, the question occupying many Israeli minds was: What this would mean for Israel. Our political reporter, David Essing, put this question to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir but the minister felt it was still too early to assess possible changes in U.S. foreign policy toward the Middle East, although he was heartened by the restatement of U.S. commitment to the Camp David process. But how did he view the statement by Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Charles Percy in favor of giving aircraft being supplied to Saudi Arabia greater offensive capability?

[Begin recording] [Shamir] Our position is known; we continue to oppose this attempt to add more offensive strength to the Saudi Government and if somebody is looking for new arguments he can find it in the last Muslim summit with these most extreme resolutions about the conflict in the Middle East.

[Question] Do you think, regarding the Islamic summit, that the call for a jihad--holy war--is simply a repetition of previous calls, or are you expecting something different this time?

[Answer] It's a repetition but if it comes after the conclusion of a peace treaty with Egypt, and after the last developments in the last 3 years, it must be regarded as a most extreme and irrational step.

[Question] Might it have a connection with the terrorist shelling of the towns in Israel this week?

[Answer] I cannot see any connection, because it's not new. This shelling by the PLO is a constant modus operandi of these organizations and these movements, and the reaction of the Israeli Government is the same as before.

[Question] But Israeli planes haven't really been striking at the terrorist bases for some time now. Do you think that this is the best way of hitting back at the terrorists?

[Answer] The main aim for us in our fight against the terrorist organizations is to hit the terrorists only, without damage to civilians who are not engaged in this fight against us.

[Question] As foreign minister, do you find it hard to get this message across to other foreign ministers, to countries abroad, to the international community?

[Answer] I cannot see any difficulty because our position is right, but I can admit that we are not always listened to, and our positions are not always accepted. But I can understand that our attitude toward the terrorist organizations is accepted and understood--even sometimes tacitly--by many, many governments in the world.

[Question] The fact that Secretary of State Haig has said that fighting international terrorism will be one of his top priorities--do you think this is going to help Israel in its campaign?

[Answer] Well, I can say only that this statement is very encouraging because one of the most terrorist organizations in the world is the PLO, and if you have to fight terrorism you have to fight the PLO; and therefore this statement of Secretary Haig is very encouraging.

[Question] You have spoken out very forcefully against the supply of West German modern Leopard tanks to Saudi Arabia recently. How serious a blow would it be to Israeli-West German relations if Bonn does sell the Leopard tanks to Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] Well, it's very obvious that German tanks, which will endager the security and existence of Israel, will be a terrible blow to the relations between Germany and Israel. It is unimaginable that German tanks will endanger the existence of the Jewish state, after all that happened during the World War and the holocaust; I think that every German has to understand and to feel it.

[Question] Could we turn now to relations with Egypt? We've heard very disturbing news this week about the Egyptian attitude to the Israeli book fair in Cairo. They seemed to be reluctant about Israel participating at the very beginning. Do you think that these are isolated incidents, or is it a reflection of Egypt's overall policy today toward normalization with Israel?

[Answer] It would not be correct to speak about an Egyptian attitude. There are many trends in the Egyptian society, in the Arab society, who oppose the peace treaty and the normalization of the relations between us and Egypt. We know that this normalization is a long way, and on this way are many obstacles, and we need much patience and wisdom to overcome these obstacles. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Shamir also came out in favor of an early summit conference with the U.S. and Egypt, saying that the fact that Israel would be having elections in the summer should not affect this.

PERES ADDRESSES LABOR CONVENTION; MINISTER REACTS

TA011638 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1330 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Tel Aviv, 1 Feb--Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres made it clear at the Labor Party convention today that if he leads a government, his government would not fulfill all the obligations undertaken by the current Likud government, although it would honor all its international commitments.

Appearing at the opening session, on socioeconomic policy, of the second Labor Party convention at a Tel Aviv movie theater, Mr Peres said: "I would like to announce from this podium that we would fulfill all the Likud government's international commitments, but not everything the Likud has decided on, and certainly not everything it is about to decide upon now that the election is near. This will not be automatically binding on us in the future."

He noted that by this he meant "the unscrupulous sale of government and public firms, granting tax exemptions to preferred social groups, pampering inflationary profits, improper land deals, the politization of government institutions and exempting religious girls from national service."

"All these," he said, "will be reassessed and the changes necessitated by the goal of improving the economy and the country's predicament will be introduced."

Mr Peres outlined a vast range of development enterprises which his government would carry out and said that "several large national projects, which will receive utmost precedence, will be at the focal point of the construction and growth enterprises." They are:

1. Digging a channel between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea in coordination with our neighbors and involving the raising of Jewish and international funds to compensate for the loss of Dead Sea waters and in order to turn parts of the Negev into a vital and developing area.

2. Establishing a science and technology-based industrial complex in the Galilee, in accordance with [former President] Prof Efrayim Qatzir's proposal, which will supply employment to 100,000 people: engineers, technicians and plant workers.

3. Turning the 'Arava and Elat areas--and, with Egypt's consent, also Sharm ash-Shaykh--into a large tourism and intensive agriculture centre.

4. Establishing nuclear power plants and producing electricity from uranium, coal, solar pools, solar panels and shale oil.

5. Increasing agricultural production by 50 percent by revising planning, altering water allocations, developing new water sources, introducing new crops and increasing agricultural exports.

6. Establishing new industrial branches in the civilian and military spheres based on new technologies and materials.

7. Expanding the Jewish population of Jerusalem by building 50,000 housing units and constructing scientific, educational and industrial institutions in Israel's united capital.

Mr Peres said that he had discussed all these issues with both Jewish and non-Jewish leaders and cited FRG Social-Democratic Party leader Willy Brandt, who said: "I have heard the Alignment's plans and I, too, was impressed with the imaginative, and visionary nature of the people of Israel's desire to progress in times of peace."

In his opening remarks, Mr Peres rejected the Likud's charges that anyone who does not accept the Likud's policy was harming Israel. On the contrary, he said, anyone who prolongs the lifespan of this government increases the isolation of Israel and its diminished status among world nations and in this region.

"Menahem Begin gave up the entire Sinai and presented the Knesset, the government and even us, the opposition, with a fait accompli. He created a situation in which anyone who did not want to oppose peace had to make do with the hasty concession of the Rafah approaches, Sharm ash-Shaykh and the airfields."

Now, Mr Peres claimed, Minister Ari'el Sharon is establishing settlements hastily so as to supposedly stop the so-called sale of Judaea and Samaria. However, we are not selling anything in this country; we want to avoid the loss of the Jewish majority in the state of Israel.

"What David ben-Gurion said, namely that he prefers a Jewish state on parts of Eretz Yisra'el instead of a nation with an Arab majority, sounds like bitter truth even today," the speaker said.

Mr Peres called for a clean and responsible election campaign, devoid of libel, mudslinging and false reports.

"We will appeal to the people to give us a stable majority to overcome excessive factionalism which divides the Knesset into splinter groups and independent members who sway to and fro, thus rendering the Knesset powerless and preventing its members from cooperating," he said.

Nisim Reaction

TA011641 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] Shim'on Peres' remarks are those of an arrogant politician and of a man unaware of the rules of power and law, said Justice Minister Moshe Nisim today about Peres' statement at the Labor Party convention that if the Labor Party returned to power it would honor the international commitments undertaken by the Likud government. However, it would not honor all the government's decisions on domestic affairs. Speaking to our political correspondent, Minister Nisim said it was customary for a government to honor the decisions of its predecessor and the current government had also done so.

SAUDI, JORDANIAN VIOLATIONS OF CONTRACTS CITED

TA021107 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] Israel has drawn Washington's attention to the fact that Saudi Arabia and Jordan are violating contracts they had signed with the United States by moving U.S. artillery to Iraq for the purpose of conducting the war against Iran.

Parallel to this transfer of arms, the Saudi port of Sharm Yanbu' also serves as a center for unloading arms supplies--including tanks--from various Eastern bloc countries and for transferring them on to Iraq.

Iraq has approached a number of Arab countries asking them to supply it with artillery for its war against Iran. Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait acceded to the Iraqi request. It has been learned that Saudi Arabia provided the Iraqis with U.S. and French guns. In none of these cases was prior Washington approval of this step obtained. What the Jordanians received from Iraq in exchange for their arms supplies were a few dozen M-60 A-1 Patton tanks which have already been partly incorporated into Jordanian armored units.

In addition to transferring U.S. and French equipment to Iraq, Saudi Arabia is the main gate through which armament coming from the Eastern bloc reaches Iraq. Jordan, on the other hand, serves as the address for various Iraqi-European deals and certain deals with arms-producing companies and other plants.

As for the Eastern bloc, Poland is known to be the major supplier of Soviet-made arms to Iraq. Soviet tanks have been transferred from Poland to Saudi Arabia on their way to Iraq. Poland and Saudi Arabia tried to keep these deals confidential. Other Eastern bloc countries such as, Yugoslavia, for example, are also sending arms and spare parts for Iraq via Saudi Arabia.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO RESPOND TO U.S. REPORT

TA011145 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Feb 81 p 5

[Moshe Zaq commentary: "One Report Against Another"]

[Text] Over the last few days the Carter administration took care to leave us a "heritage" we will have to deal with under the Reagan administration.

On the eve of the changes in the White House, the Carter administration left us a heritage in Congress: a report on the Israeli military government's attitude toward the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria; a report containing all the usual accusations collected by U.S. missions in the Middle East; a report we have inherited from the previous administration, which would undoubtedly have disturbed us had the new U.S. secretary of state not hurried to announce the new emphasis in the"human rights" policy--war on terror.

This heavy emphasis by the new administration on the war on international terror is a positive turn in U.S. policy.

Now, since the U.S. hostages have returned from Tehran, Robert (Lifschitz), Jimmy Carter's Jewish friend, has disclosed that Chancellor Kreisky tried to blackmail the United States into recognizing the PLO in return for that terrorist organization's mediation in the release of the hostages. Robert (Lifschitz) now reveals that the U.S. Government consulted the Government of Israel on this issue and, after having heard Israel's reservations, Kreisky's proposal was turned down.

Had the United States maintained a policy of an uncompromising war on international terror, it would not have needed to ask Israel for its views at all. It would have rejected that proposal out of hand.

It seems that the new administration is firmer in its opposition to the terrorist organizations; it is even prepared to point to the source of international aid to international terror, with all its branches. The Soviet Union is now being forced to defend itself against the Reagan administration's accusations of having encouraged the terrorist organizations. And right now is the time for the Government of Israel to release and publish all the decisive proof in its possession about the training the Palestinian terrorists are being given in special military academies in the Soviet Union.

With the previous administration having left its report on the situation in the territories at our doorstep, we would do well to put together and submit to Congress the decisive evidence about the link between the Soviet Union and the PLO organizations, since all the rival PLO branches--Habash and Hawatimah supporters together with those of 'Arafat and Jibril--are gathered together under one roof in training camps in the Soviet Union.

The submission of this Israeli report must not be postponed until we end our argument over the date of the Knesset elections.

SHAMIR TO HEAD LIKUD CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

TA021010 Jerusalem POST in English 2 Feb 81 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will head the Likud election campaign headquarters, the Likud Cabinet ministers decided yesterday at a meeting in Prime Minister Menahem Begin's bureau.

No other names were proposed for the key job, the Jerusalem POST was assured on good authority.

Rumours circulating for the past fortnight had suggested that former Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir might take the Democratic Movement into the Likud bloc and get the job of campaign chairman.

Shamir will apparently not be involved in round-the-clock campaigning, but will be expected to rule on issues of principle. The universal respect he commands throughout the Likud, which makes him unlikely to be a victim of backbiting, made him the most suitable candidate for the job of campaign chief, the POST was told.

ETHIOPIA

MINISTRY PROTESTS ISLAMIC CONFERENCE INTERFERENCE

LD011804 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1710 GMT 31 Jan 81 EA

[Statement issued by Ethiopian Foreign Ministry protesting Islamic Conference's Interference in Ethiopia's internal affairs--date not specified]

[Text] News from At-Ta'if has demonstrated that some member countries of the Islamic Conference have decided to interfere once again in Ethiopia's internal affairs. Such interference in Ethiopia's internal affairs, apart from being shameful, cannot be approved by anyone. Some member countries of the Islamic Conference have found interfering in Ethiopia's internal affairs to be an alternative to their failure to face the common enemy. And this, no doubt, is to be expected from them.

With the exception of a few progressive members, the conference comprised a majority of reactionaries, oppressors and exploiters of the world, who try to make the world a place where their hegemonistic and expansionist interests and those of others like them may be fulfilled.

The At-Ta'if summit members, who denied their own objectives and goals, should have concentrated on mending their broken fences and putting their houses in order. But they preferred interfering in Ethiopia's internal affairs openly. Contrary to the majority of participants at the Islamic Conference, who oppose any other religion except Islam, socialist Ethiopia is a country where freedom of religion, equality and justice are maintained. The sole purpose of the statements made and stands taken at the At-Ta'if conference is to divide the oppressed peoples of the world, develop animosity and ignite wars. And this is masterminded by international imperialism, which uses reactionary Arab governments as its instruments. Hence the At-Ta'if summit, which was attended by reactionaries who know nothing about freedom, has no right whatsoever to teach Ethiopia about freedom. Ethiopia's response to this empty cry of the Islamic Conference was meant only to show world opinion that all the accusations were baseless. Otherwise Ethiopia would have ignored the matter.

As is well known to the world, the Saudi Arabian state, which hosted the summit, is a government that exploits and oppresses the broad masses of Saudi Arabia. While the princes like a luxurious life, the broad masses are condemned to exploitation by the ruling class, in the name of the Islamic religion. The members of the ruling class have betrayed their own people and cannot differentiate between an enemy and a friend. Blacks are still serving as slaves in their palaces. Women are sold or bartered as goods. People are either being beheaded or having their hands or legs hacked off. The death of a Saudi princess, who was beheaded, was a demonstration of their barbarism.

As is well known in history, these parasites of society who accumulated wealth by the slave trade, adhering to their old practice, are today promoting an appalling type of slavery, neocolonialism and imperialist hegemony in the Middle East and the Gulf region. Paying lip service to the inalienable rights of the heroic Palestinian people, the reactionary ruling class send their petrodollars to their masters as well as the huge supply of oil they present to the imperialists. At the expense of the poverty of their people, they involve themselves in the expansion of war industries.

Furthermore they try to play the part of defenders of the imperialist interest in the region. The part of this statement describing the ruling class based in Jidda will, with few alterations, hold for the majority of the governments which attended the At-Ta'if conference. Therefore, these members of the ruling class who have betrayed the aims of their peoples and the Islamic religion, will never be able to teach a country like Ethiopia without learning from her.

As a supporter of the Arab cause, Ethiopia has become the first target of imperialism. But these ungrateful countries have never refrained from posing problems to the basic interests of the Ethiopian peoples. But the presence of countries like the PDRY, who are close to and friendly with Ethiopia, is enough for Ethiopia.

Some member countries of the Islamic Conference have seen as their objective to disrupt progressive African countries and the continent in general. As an example, the committee formed by the At-Ta'if conference to discuss Ethiopia's affairs, will be interfering not only in Ethiopia's internal affairs but in the internal affairs of the whole of Africa.

As the majority of the members of the conference are without principles of their own and are stooges of imperialism, the conference is not expected to come to a conclusion that would serve the basic rights and freedoms of the broad masses. They reflect the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism. The conference, which was attended mainly by reactionaries, has declared religious war not only against progressive countries like Ethiopia, but also against international organizations like the united nations, the OAU and the nonaligned movement. Claiming to be the sole architect of peace and international discipline, this organization is actually trying to disrupt these international organizations, the principles of which it is defying now. But what is the truth?

Whoever closely observes these groups who claim hypocritically to be the bearers of social development, can see that they actually feel threatened and alarmed by the very mention of new ideas and development. And being prisoners tying themselves to outdated ideas, they remain lost in the face of modern objective realities. In reality they live in a world of dreams which embraces the entire area from the Atlantic to the Pacific. And their organization is even an enemy of the nonaligned movement and not a supporter or part of the movement.

This being the case, while Somalia in the grip of Siad Barre and his patrons is trying to make a futile attempt at expansionism at the expense of Ethiopia and its neighbors, so also countries like Pakistan in collusion with China and with the support of international imperialism are trying to expand at the expense of India.

These so-called fighters of Islam have not stopped at pouring billions of dollars into imperialist banks--enabling racist South Africa to set up its nuclear plant--or at buying casinos, night clubs, massage parlors, skyscrapers and apartment buildings in imperialist metropolises.

Our brothers and sisters suffering under the apartheid regime of South Africa are being ruthlessly massacred with the support of imperialism and also of these disillusioned oil-rich reactionaries.

These contemporary impostors of prophets, had they but a small concern for human welfare, would they have so failed to make a modest contribution to the development effort in Africa instead of pouring out and hoarding their petrodollar millions in imperialist banks and cities? And instead of giving cheap bribes to some African leaders, who are promoting their unworthy aims and do not stand for the interests of their peoples and thus become the cause of the massacre of thousands of fellow Africans, why do these time-made gods not practice what they preach? Their lies become more apparent when taking account of the fact they are making such a campaign against socialist Ethiopia but they have not raised any criticism of the treacherous Siad Barre administration, which sold out the basic principles and aims of Arabs, colluding with forces opposed to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Basically the Islamic Conference, being a forum dealing with religious matters, should have refrained from meddling in issues that were out of its jurisdiction.

It is tragic that Guinea and Senegal, two African countries, forgetting that they had to abide by the charters of the OAU, joined the front ranks in violating the aims of the organization in a forum outside Africa. Pressured by cheap grants these countries, in alliance with forces outside Africa, are violating the charters of the OAU. Although the leaders of these countries pay lip service to freedom and justice, they do not represent other peoples let alone the peoples they are making suffer under the yoke of exploitation.

Ethiopia and its people, in their entire history, have stood up and determinedly halted consecutive waves of aggression against them. And today in this age of (?technology and science) they have again rebuffed reactionary shaykh-emperors who are trying to impose the old and the new slave system in this strategically important part of the world.

After failing to disrupt the unity and freedom of our country for centuries, these enemies are trying to achieve this today through their mercenary representatives. Just as the Ethiopian people have overthrown the oppressive system supported by international imperialism and reaction, so also now they will not surrender to this cynical, blood-sucking and opportunist maneuver.

While our people are at present making a great struggle to build this country peacefully and make it a country where economic and social equality, genuine freedom, democracy and peace reign, the Ethiopian people will never accept any pretentious attempt from any quarter to find a solution to the Ethiopian problem. The problem can be borne and solved only by the masses.

Socialist Ethiopia gives a clear and sound warning to these outdated (?emperors) and to those members of the Islamic Conference who showed the temerity to impose their interest on others. This means: Take your hands off Ethiopia and, if you can, try to solve your own complicated problems.

Revolutionary Ethiopia also expresses deep gratitude to those fighters who to the end stood for the truth, taking strong and correct positions without being misled by the confusing presentations of the reactionary Somali regime.

CAPE VERDE

ENVOYS SET OUT TO EXPLAIN DECISION ON PAICV

AB310808 Paris AFP in French 0623 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Dakar, 31 Jan (AFP)--Mr. Silvino da Luz, the Cape Verdian foreign minister, was received Friday by President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, to whom he explained the reasons leading to the formation of the African Independence Party of Cape Verde [PAICV].

Mr da Luz had been received on Wednesday in Banjul by Mr Mahamadou Saho Lamin, the Gambian minister of justice, to whom he delivered a similar message. He will also be received in Mauritania, where, as he has done in the case of his previous hosts, he will deliver Cape Verdian President Aristides Pereira's explanatory message.

Also carrying a similar message to Mr Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, is Mr Herculano Vieira, the Cape Verdian transport and communications minister, who left Praia on Thursday for Luanda.

GHANA

SOUTH AFRICAN 'FALSEHOODS' ABOUT GOLD DENIED

AB311415 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 31 Jan 81

[Text] The Ghana Government has denied reports in overseas publications that Ghana is seeking South African capital to develop its gold resources. In a statement issued in Accra this afternoon, the government said its attention has been drawn to certain scurrilous overseas publications, particularly, the Johannesburg STAR, about the recent seminar on Ghana's gold and diamonds. The report, attributed to a South African mining consultant, one (Hans Macalley) who attented the seminar, claimed that Ghana is seeking South African capital to develop its gold resources.

The statement said the reports are patent falsehoods that South Africa is spreading, obviously in a deliberate attempt to frustrate Ghana's efforts to develop her gold industry and prevent her from threatening South Africa's virtual monopoly of the world's gold supply. To achieve the objective, the South Africans have embarked on this vile campaign to discredit Ghana in the eyes of OAU member countries and would-be investors who are against the obnoxious practice of apartheid.

The statement made clear that at no time did the government invite any South Africans to attend the seminar. Conference records show that one (Hans von Michael) participated in the seminar as a representative of (Randol International) of the United States, and no government official discussed any investment issues with him.

For the avoidance of doubt, the government restated its total opposition to the obnoxious policy of apartheid practiced by South Africa and its full support for and commitment to OAU resolutions calling for the severance of political, economic, cultural and other ties with South Africa. The government also restated its unwavering support for the heroic struggle of the people of Azania and Namibia against racial discrimination and political and economic subjugation. It added that as a founding member of the OAU, it is alive to its historic responsibilities and would never retreat from its progressive policies by any consideration whatsoever.

MOZAMBIQUE

PARTY FIGURE DENOUNCES SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK

LD312248 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 31 Jan 81 EA

[Text] In Maputo yesterday a member of the permanent Political Committee, Lt Gen Armando Guebuza, denounced as a criminal and foul act the South African commandos' action against ANC members who are refugees living in Matola, Mozambique.

SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICIALS REPORT, REACT TO ATTACK ON ANC IN MAPUTO

Defense Chief's Announcement

LD301520 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Jan 81

[Text] Units of the South African defense force have successfully attacked three planning and control headquarters of the South African African National Congress in Maputo, Mozambique. The chief of the defense force, Gen Constant Viljoen, has announced in Pretoria that the targets were destroyed completely and numerous ANC terrorists, including senior commanders, were killed in the attack. A large quantity of weapons, sabotage equipment and documents were seized. The attack force has already returned to its base.

General Viljoen emphasized that the attack was aimed solely at ANC terrorists and that everything possible was done to avoid contact with civilians and security forces in Mozambique. General Viljoen said the attack on the targets came after information that Maputo was used as a springboard for terror against South Africa. In addition, the South African defense force had in its possession evidence that the attack on Sasol, the oil-from-coal plant, the Silverton Bank incident and attacks on police stations last year had been planned in those hiding places in Maputo with the aid of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and Cuban and East German advisers.

Defense Minister's Statement

LD012136 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 1 Feb 81

[Text] The South African minister of defense, Gen Magnus Malan, says Mozambique and other countries have been repeatedly warned not to harbor or help terrorists. In a statement issued in Pretoria he said countries that did this offered South Africa no alternative but to strike and, if it became necessary, it would be done again. On the other hand, it was in the interests of stability that goodneighborly relations be maintained. This would be to the benefit of all the countries in southern Africa and would provide the additional benefit of economic progress. General Malan said that there were happy signs that the West was becoming more and more conscious and international terrorism and that stronger action had to be taken against terrorists. He said terrorism was the same wherever it reared its head in the world.

Buthelezi's Remarks

LD020426 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 2 Feb 81

[Text] In the Soweto Township near Johannesburg the chief minister of Kwazulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, said the raiding of the ANC bases in Maputo was a tragedy and would remain with the black community of South Africa for many months. He appealed to the prime minister, Mr P.S. Botha, to save South Africa from an escalation of violence.

ZIMBABWE

PRIME MINISTER REACTS TO RAID ON ANC IN MAPUTO

Mugabe Message

LD021124 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Feb 81 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has told the Pretoria regime that any act of aggression committed against Mozambique will be considered hostile to Zimbabwe. In a message to the Mozambique president, Comrade Samora Machel, the prime minister also called on the international community to denounce strongly the racist regime for Friday's raid on refugee homes of the African National Congress at Matola, near Maputo. The message said Zimbabweans read with great shock and dismay of the aggression and cold-blooded murders committed by bandits of the Pretoria regime against the People's Republic of Mozambique and the innocent refugees from South Africa.

The message continued: The Government of Zimbabwe condemns these barbaric acts of banditry and murder. It calls upon the international community to denounce these repeated acts being committed by the Pretoria racists against the frontline states. The people of Zimbabwe stand firm at the side of their Mozambique comrades and pledge their militant solidarity with the oppressed masses of Azania. The wanton acts of murder by the (?brigades) of the Pretoria regime will not deter Africa from her sacred duty to assist the people of Azania and Namibia to attain their own freedom and independence.

Official Statement

LD021108 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 31 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The Office of the Prime Minister has issued the following statement:

The unprovoked raid by the commandos of the South African defense force carried out yesterday in the Matola industrial area of Maputo was a naked act of aggression against our peaceloving neighbor and ally in the struggle for peace and democracy in our region. The invasion is part of the overall strategy of the apartheid regime to destabilize the democratic political order of the frontline states and must therefore be viewed and condemned in the context in which South African aggressive activities encompass the whole of our frontline region from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean.

The statement went on to say: These aggressive activities include, in Mozambique, the sponsoring of the sabotage and subversion being carried out by the bandit (RNM) group and, in Zimbabwe, the recent sabotage acts on our barracks by former Selous Scouts elements. In Zambia this included the promotion of the recent attempted coup; in Botswana, the recent unprovoked attack at (Kazangula); and in Angola, the continuing military invasion by South African troops.

The government and people of Zimbabwe strongly condemn these barbarous acts that the apartheid regime is resorting to in defense of her racist and inhuman policies. Yesterday's attack on Mozambique is a signal warning to us not only to proceed with speed to strengthen our defense but also to consolidate our military alliance with our Mozambique brothers in defense of our political order and developing economies.